

VOL. 1  
NO. 1

MARCH, 1919

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THE

# MEDICAL KIT

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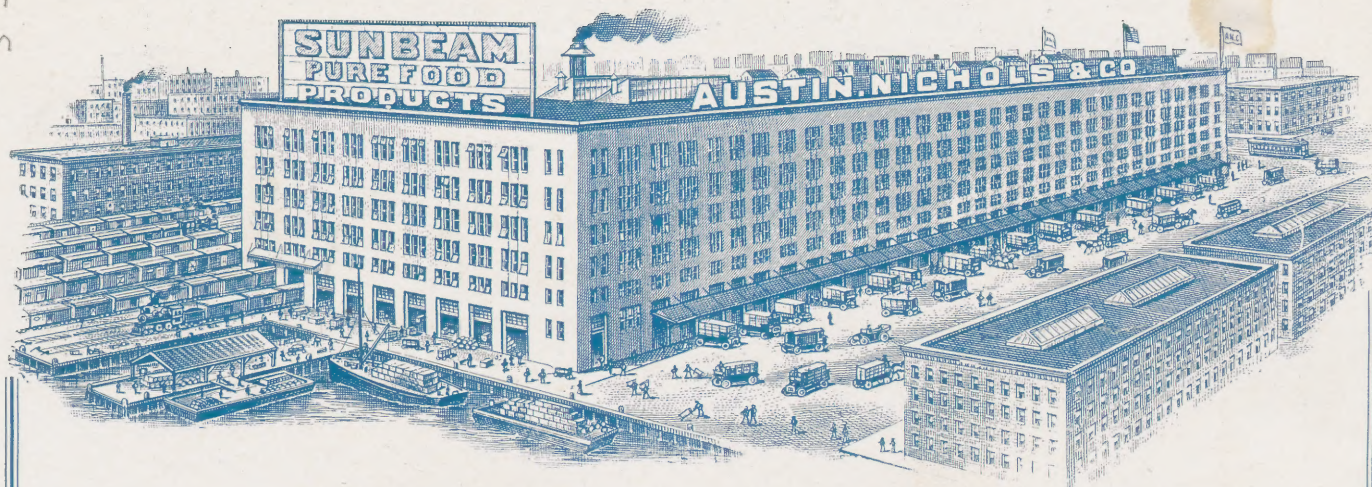
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## New York



A magazine written and published by the enlisted men of U. S. A. Base Hospital, Camp Merritt, N. J., issued monthly, for the amusement and profit of patients from Overseas, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and for all men and women in the service or out of the service, who have helped to "MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY."

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Vol. 1 - No. 1

MARCH, 1919

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*Why the Name "Mess-Kit?"* It is not the easiest thing in the world to name a new publication aptly, resoundingly, comprehensively, and in such wise that the name chosen recurs to the memory without effort. Not easy; but, you observe, it is done. "Mess-Kit" is obviously the right name for a magazine written by the enlisted man for the enlisted man; busy with his interests; deserving and receiving his hearty support. Whether he is in the service or discharged from the service, THE MESS-KIT is, and continues to be, his *voice*. This magazine belongs first to the Khaki and the Serge; afterwards to humanity generally, and particularly to patriotic humanity. Its field is very wide; its contents are varied; its uses many. In this number, and in the numbers that follow each month, you will find Cup, Plate, Knife, Fork, Spoon, and a good meal, for the small sum of One Dime, served with some little attention to the picturesque. You have only to draw up your chair. You are welcome.

\* \* \*

*Knights of the Driven Quill.* Franklin P. Adams, the well-beloved "F.P.A." of The New York Tribune, was given a commission as Captain a year ago, seeing service in France under General Pershing. Bud Fisher, after delighting the men in the trenches with his "Mutt and Jeff" cartoons, has returned to us as Captain Fisher. There is not a paper or magazine in the United States that has not sent its best to the Front. Some have come back to us unharmed; some crippled; some will never come back, but lie in "Flanders Fields." In those who have returned to us there is already evident the jubilation of the "colyumist" with a new subject pat to his hand,—the war! So they do not cover the nakedness of the Hun with their kindly laughter; so they do not jest with the Prussian; so they keep always in the forefront of their minds the fact that it was a mere matter of luck in location that they were not themselves the sons, husbands, brothers, fathers, friends, of women outraged, children maimed and murdered;—so they remember this hideous thing; so they never let themselves forget this;—we have no objection to laughing with them at the humors of the World War. Bairnsfather found such humors, and made them immortal. But he did not laugh with the Prussian.

*A Different War.* A great war was fought in these States a generation ago between the North and the South. Bitter hatreds accompanied and followed it. The wounds are healed; the rancors are ended. It was a man's war; it was fought between men. If such a thing could be said of any war, it was "a gentleman's war"; it was fierce, evil, relentless; it was, as Sherman said, "hell," but it did not count the honor of the woman and the life of the little child among its spoils. It did not bomb hospitals; it did not drown shipwrecked sailors; it did not poison and assassinate. It was war; but clean war. Let us go back still further. When these United States grouped themselves together to resist the tyranny of the fat-headed Dutchman, George III, who at that time disgraced the throne of England, the Continental Army under General Washington was called upon in the course of the war to face Hessian troopers to the number of 30,000 hired by King George at a cost to England of \$22,000,000 from Hesse-Cassel in Germany, because the war was so unpopular in England that it was impossible to secure a sufficient number of English volunteers to create an army. Added to the Hessians were the Indians, known as the Six Nations, the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, Senecas and Tuscaroras, allies of the English king, bringing to the aid of General Burgoyne the fiendish cruelty of the Indian methods of warfare. This was barbarous war; rank, foul, hideous. In order to find a parallel for this great European War just concluded we are forced back to a contemplation of the usages of the savage Indian, as of date 1776 A. D., in a comparison that is advantageous to the Indian weighed in the scale against the modern Prussian. This last and greatest crime against civilization must not be condoned. We are too apt to forget, to palliate, to excuse. There is no excuse. It was a wanton thing. Not to be forgotten. Not to be forgiven.

\* \* \*

*Payment in Full.* It is for us and for all nations to withhold companionship from the Prussian until he has paid in full. Cash does not suffice. Blood cannot be exacted; the swine has escaped the death penalty. Let him pay then in the only thing left to him. Let him pay in *service*. Fifty years of it.



*The Red Badge of Courage.* The heroisms of this War can never be totalled. It is a truism that it takes as much courage to perform a distasteful task day after day, week after week, month after month, three thousand miles away from the battle-line, as to go "over the top" with the rest of the bunch, as to endure the hardship of the trenches, as to face the shrapnel and shell-fire. There is a glamor about action that calls and calls, the more insistently for the sake of the danger. Two lines of Browning hit off the feeling of the average man quite accurately,—

"Left low safety to timid mates

And made for the dear, dread danger."

That is as neat an analysis of a man's feeling about such things as we shall find anywhere. We may take it as a certainty that not one per cent. of the men who remained on this side of the water so remained of their own choice. They stayed here because they could not get across. There was work that had to be done here, and it fell to them to do it. How well they did it is attested by a remark which fell once from the lips of the Officer Commanding at Camp Merritt Base Hospital, Major Jesse I. Sloat, M. C., who said to a sergeant in the Sick and Wounded Office: "The men in these offices have worked night and day, without rest, for weeks on end, to meet these conditions. I have never known such ungrudging service; so little complaint; such genuine loyal co-operation and determination to put the thing through; to get the work out; to keep the wheels from stopping; to keep things moving. If it had not been for this devoted service on the part of the enlisted men in this Command we should have faced an impossible task. They made it possible to bring it to a successful ending." Not all the heroism was on the battlefields of France.

\* \* \*

*War Poems.* For this first number of THE MESS-KIT we select the two Poems of the War that seem to us closest to the heart of the Army and the Navy. For the exquisite lyric "In Flanders Fields," written by Dr. John McCrae, of Montreal, Canada, we acknowledge indebtedness to G. P. Putnam's Sons, Publishers, N. Y. City, and for "The Likes of They," a little-known ballad with the tang of brine in it, and a hearty, savage, British hate of the Hun striking the major note throughout, our thanks to Chappell & Co., Ltd., London, England, and to the author, A. P. Herbert. It makes a lump in the throat to know that the author of "In Flanders Fields" was killed in action at the second battle of Ypres, and that his body lies buried in the poppy fields of France.

### "In Flanders Fields."

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the Crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks still bravely singing fly,  
Scarce heard amidst the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved; and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe,  
To you from falling hands we throw  
The torch—Be yours to hold it high!  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

### "The Likes of They."

One more plucky old ship gone down,  
Ten men shot in an open boat—  
Six more widows about the town—  
One more little account to note.  
And if she'd gone down to a decent crew  
It's little there'd be to pay;  
But, God, I'll do what a man can do  
To punish the likes of they.

Oh, never a Fritz shall sail  
On a ship that sails with me,  
Never a box or bale  
That smells of Germany.  
Never the likes of they  
Shall soil the English shore  
Till the seamen of England say  
"You've settled the seaman's score."

I used to think that the sailorman  
Whatever his alien breed might be,  
Was somehow built on a healthy plan  
And much of a piece with you and me;  
But men who laugh when a good man drowns  
Are made of a different clay,  
And I'd sail with the scum of the world's worst towns,  
But not with the likes of they.

No, never a Fritz shall sail  
On a ship that sails with me.  
Never a box or bale  
That smells of Germany.  
Never the likes of me  
Shall touch the German shore  
Till the men who have shamed the sea  
Have settled the seamen's score.

Easy, maybe, will the world forget  
The dirtiest work that these have done.  
The kings may pardon, the priests may pet  
The carrion thing they now call Hun;  
But a man who's clung to a drifting oar  
And watched for a sail all day,  
He won't forget when there ain't no war—  
To HELL with the likes of they.

So never a Fritz shall sail  
In a ship that sails with me,  
Never a box or bale  
That smells of Germany.  
Never can me or you  
Be mates with the spawn of Cain,  
Till the dead have had their due  
And the seas are clean again.

*Who Won the War?* Disclaiming any intention of holding a post-mortem on the subject THE MESS-KIT dismisses the query with the statement of a fact self-evident, namely, that the army of the United States put the force into the knock-out punch that ended the fight. That is all. It is enough.

\* \* \*

*The Mess-Kit Cartoon.* The powerful cartoon which "Still Hoping." appears in this number of THE MESS-KIT was drawn for us by

Charles Livingston Bull a few days after the famous dispatch by Elias Tobenkin, cabling from Berlin, appeared in the New York Tribune of Feb. 1. That dispatch was headed, "EBERT DECLARES HE WILL REJECT CRUSHING PEACE. GERMAN PREMIER PROTESTS TREND OF PARLEY. SAYS NATION WILL SAVE ITSELF." Mr. Bull's cartoon strikes like lightning. Do not overlook the attitudes and facial expressions of the birds. This is great work. Our earnest thanks to Charles Livingston Bull.



## CURRENT HISTORY IN CARTOON. No 1.



CHARLES LIVINGSTON BULL.

## STILL HOPING!

DRAWN FOR THE MESS-KIT BY CHARLES LIVINGSTON BULL

## THE CARTOON ESSAY COMPETITION.

It is a feather in our cap, or, better, it much improves the quality of the meal served, that The Mess-Kit is able to present to its readers this pregnant picture by a distinguished craftsman. Mr. Bull's work is known on both sides of the Atlantic. You see why. To stimulate attention to this Department of The Mess-Kit we invite our readers to send in their own interpretation of the story told by the cartoon in the form of a brief essay, not to exceed 100 words in length. For the best 3 essays submitted, The Mess-Kit will pay \$5., \$3., and \$2., as First, Second and Third Prizes, respectively. The Cartoon Essay Competition will close on the 10th day of every month. For example, essays sent in to compete for the "Still Hoping" prizes must be in our hands by the 10th day of March. Essays must be addressed on the envelope to THE MESS-KIT, CARTOON ESSAY COMPETITION, U. S. A. BASE HOSPITAL, CAMP MERRITT, N. J. The essay itself must carry the full name and address of the writer. It is not necessary that essays should be type-written, but they must be clearly written. The 3 prize-winning essays will be published in the April number of The Mess-Kit. This Cartoon Essay Competition is open to all annual subscribers to The Mess-Kit. By these means we stamp the significance of the monthly cartoon upon the mind of the reader, keeping the interest in the subject alive.



*The Splendor That Endures.* There are three superb defiances born of this World War that are of a quality immortal. They are History for all time. Terse, poignant, gallant, thrilling, challenging. Magnificent and eternally ALIVE. Remember them, you who read. They are:—

1. "*On Ne Passe Pas!*" "THEY SHALL NOT PASS!" The cry of the French Army under Joffre defending Verdun, when Paris was first menaced. It was impossible. It was glorious. It was utter devotion. But it was hopeless. And yet, you remember, it was done. There is nothing on earth in phrase of words in any tongue that expresses so exactly the fire of sacrifice to the death for the Cause by the common soldier. They were only half-trained; little more than "rookies", that French army; but they saved France.

2. "*We Are Fighting With Our Backs To The Wall!*" The call of Sir Douglas Haig, the British Commander-in-Chief, to his men on that dark day of July, 1918, when the Third German Offensive was at its strongest. It is dogged, stubborn, savage British courage in epitome, looking death in the face with clear eye, knowing that the answer is death, and fighting, fighting, to the last man left alive, if that is demanded. They held. The British held. Again the cry is to the common soldier. That is the Voice of England; the indomitable, taciturn, matter-of-fact Tommy Atkins in action. The British held.

3. "*Lafayette, Nous Voila!*" "LAFAYETTE, WE ARE HERE!" It is a promise; it is a tribute; spoken by the Commanding General of the Army of the United States at the tomb of that Frenchman whose devotion strengthened the arm of our great Washington as opportunely as Pershing's men arrived to turn a stalemate into a victory. It is the Voice of America. It is a payment of debt. A grand debt; grandly paid. Paid in full. It is witty. It is compact. It is American earnestness touched with humor. It is what Abraham Lincoln would have said. Strong; calm; assured; genial. It is Lincoln himself; that matchless artist in words who caught his style of speech from the Old Testament; rugged; simple; concise; direct; and of sledge-hammer strength. Deathless words.

Forget not these three calls to the divine spark in man. There should be, somewhere there must be, a record of something in the same vein by two men; D'Annunzio, the Voice of Italy; Paderewski, the Voice of Poland. These men must have spoken for their countries. They had the right to speak; the right conferred by their great deeds.

\* \* \*

*Bolshevism is Applied Socialism.* Benign and sound in theory, Socialism demonstrates once more its unsoundness in action. It fails again, as it has failed before, in the test of all tests—"Will It Work?" No, it will not work! Reasonable and just in the chamber, it becomes violence and injustice in the field. Give it power and it becomes anarchy; applied Socialism evolves Bolshevism. When that gentle prophet, Count Leo Tolstoi, died in the odor of sanctity with half a lifetime of good words and good deeds to his credit, he, less than any man, could have believed that from the wholesome seed he planted in the heart of the Russian peasant would spring up overnight that rank, poisonous fungus which is over-spreading the world under its new Russian name of Bolshevism. He sowed Brotherly Love, Gentleness, Kindliness, Christian So-

cialism, Honesty, Upright Poverty, Industry, Contentment;—all good, all sound, seed, warranted to bring forth after its kind, if sowed sparingly and with due regard to soil, climate, cultivation,—things, which, unfortunately, prophets never concern themselves with.

To the prophet only one thing is of importance,—his Message! Nothing matters but the delivery of the literal message. He sees so clearly the results that must ensue upon its general acceptance by mankind that he is blind to the results that must follow its partial acceptance by mankind. He deals with an unreal humanity in his study; a people wise, kindly, and unselfish in their dealings with each other. To such an audience will he deliver himself of the impelling burden of his vision of great good to the world. He must talk, write, publish it abroad. The consequences cannot be other than good. So feels he; so acts he. He is, indeed, quite sure that the millennium MUST immediately follow the acceptance of his Message. He sees the day, not far off, when all men shall be just, all men shall be true, all men shall be happy.

As a rule the fire-works start shortly after the prophet's death. This old world is very doubtful of the prophet's value while he is alive in the flesh, but, when he is safe underground, then, indeed, his excellences blind by their brilliance. He comes into his own of fame when his own is no longer of any interest to him. So with our brilliant friend, Count Tolstoi. Living he had many friends and more critics: dead, he has followers by the million, filled with headlong zeal to realize, to make a fact of, the burning words of their Master. As usual, in this instance as in all previous instances, the zealous followers are making a hideous mess of things.

The unsoundness of Bolshevism, which is merely Socialism in Action, is a basic, fundamental thing. It is this. It assumes that all men, everywhere, are in no need of government, being able to see the right thing and being willing to do the right thing, without compulsion, and without instruction. This is exactly the basic error of all Anarchism, all Socialism, all I. W. W. organizations, and all fraternities of men that claim exemption from obedience to the governing body.

It is entirely true that in every age and in almost every land there have been men and women wise enough to see the right thing and pure enough to do the right thing, refraining from the wrong thing, without the aid of rules and laws made by men for their guidance. These few were shining lights. In their hands power was not abused, liberty was not license, freedom was service. Few were they in number. It is easy to count them on the fingers of one hand to a century of time.

The normal man is a mixture of Ape and God, with the Ape in control. Incurable optimists maintain that the Ape in man is losing his hold. This may or may not be true; we offer no opinion on the matter. What is clear, and true, and evident, is this, standing out like the sun at noon, a glaring, hot, positive FACT, namely, MANKIND CANNOT BE TRUSTED TO DO THE RIGHT THING WITHOUT COMPULSION.

The problem of right government is still as always, the great problem. Too much compulsion is as bad as too little. "The greatest good to the greatest number" is still the best model. Just dealing between man and man, between woman and man, and between nations, is the goal. Some day, say in a million years, we shall attain it. Socialism and anarchism offer what they call "a short cut to the goal." This hideous absurdity, Bolshevism, happens when men take a proposed short cut as a sound solution of the problem. Justice is of slow growth. Let us be thankful that it *does* grow. Justice is the goal. There are no short cuts to the goal.



*The Y. M. C. A.* There has never been an organization of men in all history that has accomplished so much of good in fostering and developing a strong and clean manhood and a sound citizenship in its members as the Young Men's Christian Association. It is the second largest corporation in the United States. It is easily the first in influence on character. In speaking of the work of the Y. M. C. A. in France the returned soldier recalls most vividly the fact that he was asked to pay high prices for goods sold to him at Canteens, these Canteens being in charge of Y. M. C. A. workers. The goods offered for sale in these Canteens were bought at high prices and sold at high prices. The "Y." assumed the burden of administration, lost money by it, and has received only abuse for it. Also, in an organization of this size, operating far from home, it was unavoidable that there should be black sheep among the white; incompetent and dishonest secretaries were found among the workers of the Association. It is well for readers of THE MESS-KIT to get their facts straight in a matter of this importance, and particularly to hold in mind two things, namely:—The mistakes made by the Y. M. C. A. abroad are frankly admitted, and are being thoroughly investigated by the Association, which offers no screen to the wrongdoer. The mistakes are nothing. The great work is everything. The mistakes die of themselves; the work endures for all time. That is one point to hold in memory. The other point touches the honor of every soldier. It is commonly stated by Overseas men, lightly thrown off in conversation as a fact beyond argument, that the Y. M. C. A. never saw the firing-line. It is not true. Ten Y. M. C. A. workers in France were killed by shell-fire or gas, at least forty were seriously wounded, thirty-nine died as a result of wounds, accidents, or disease from prolonged work in exposed places, and many were cited for bravery, for their work in most dangerous positions. During the fighting in the Argonne, seven hundred workers, fifty of whom were women, were attached to the different fighting units. More than two thousand "Y." workers attended the Chateau-Thierry and St. Mihiel drives. The first Red Triangle Girl signed up was Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. You will find her picture in "Y." uniform on another page. They called her over there, "The Little Play Lady Y". She is exceedingly proud of the great work done by the organization to which she belonged. Let us get our facts straight and keep them straight.

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*Six Months' Pay for All Honorably Discharged Soldiers.* Considered from every viewpoint, and looked at in all its bearings, the proposal that a sum of money equivalent to six months' pay shall be given to every soldier on his discharge from the Army of the United States, is an act of justice. It is a payment of debt. It is due from the nation to its enlisted men. By the application of sound business principles to the consideration of Pensions, the United States quite easily concluded that the whole system of pensioning was old-fashioned, stupid, unjust, and costly, and substituted the wiser, and at the same time, the simpler plan of War Insurance, thereby, at a stroke, taxing the pay of the soldier to provide the money needed to pay the Death and Injury Claims in large part, and relieving succeeding generations from the incubus of a gigantic bill for pensions. War Insurance was a sound and right measure. Whether Uncle Sam is actually in pocket because of it is a matter for actuaries to determine, and does not concern us one way or the other. The important thing is that War Insurance

did a certain thing in a right way; as it should have been done.

Now comes to the front the doing of another thing in a right way, the payment to the honorably discharged soldier of a sufficient sum of money to enable him to purchase the civilian clothes he needs in civil life and permit him to pay his way while he is obtaining employment. We need not enter here into details of the hardships that are being endured today by honorably discharged soldiers who have no work and no money. These hardships are evident. A case in point is that common one of the soldier in civilian clothes who is still wearing the Army Overcoat because his money did not go far enough to allow him to complete the civilian dress.

It should be evident to anyone who will give a little thought to the matter, that no discrimination in favor of any soldier based upon his Overseas or Domestic Service is right. This is no matter of favors. This is not a reward of trench-fighting. It is an acknowledgment of *Service*, and the honorable discharge is proof of *Service Rightly Rendered*. Therefore, any attempt to make a distinction between soldiers in this matter, as by giving six months' pay to the Overseas man, four months' pay to the Domestic Service man, three months' pay to the man permanently stationed in a Washington, D. C., office, etc., etc., is *wrong*. It is an absurdity. It is unjust. The enlisted man is not asking for a feverish gratitude from his country. He did his work; the work is finished. He is asking for *Justice*. Three-fourths of the men who served in the United States Army have suffered serious money loss because of that service. It is right that the nation should show its recognition of that loss by a grant of cash to the amount of six months' pay to every soldier upon his discharge from the Army. THE MESS-KIT hopes to see this act of justice taken up, discussed, insisted upon, and put through, regardless of what may have been done in the meantime in the way of tinkering with the plain terms of the plan.

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*Special Feature.* THE MESS-KIT will publish throughout the year 1919, a Course of Instruction in the French language, specially written for the enlisted man, and covered by copyright;—one lesson each month; ten lessons in all. The first lesson is given in this number. We can safely guarantee that any private of average brains will be able to speak French with fair accuracy before the year 1919 has ended by simply reading and re-reading these lessons, and constantly practising the sound of the words and phrases given. The acquiring of a conversational knowledge of any language is made easy by turning the drudgery of learning a new thing into a game; by making play out of work; by keeping the interest of the learner always active; by tickling his sense of humor; and, finally, by encouraging him to make an early parade of his new knowledge in order that the instinct for drama which is inherent in all who wear the uniform may be gratified. Speaking, reading, and writing a language correctly, or with passable correctness, means simply thinking in that language; thinking in that language comes about by repeating words of that language aloud so frequently that the sounds become naturally fixed in the memory, and a vocabulary of words has been acquired without effort. The essence of THE MESS-KIT's method of teaching French to soldiers is exactly the reverse of any other method of instruction in common use. In all systems of instruction of a similar purpose the student is required to assimilate, first of all, the *meaning* of words. THE MESS-KIT takes the position that this is putting the cart



before the horse. The right method, and the method followed in this Course of Instruction, is to acquire the words and the *sound* of the words and phrases first of all by the mere act of repetition, confident that the *meaning* will follow rapidly, and be retained in the memory. Therefore, in a phrase, the essence of this system of instruction is this: *The Meaning Follows the Sound*. All other systems weary the student and waste his time by insisting upon the principle that the words and their meaning must be acquired simultaneously. THE MESS-KIT says not, and proposes to prove its argument. It is advisable that no copies of THE MESS-KIT shall be lost or given away during the year 1919 by any subscriber anxious to acquire a knowledge of French, because the Course of Instruction is consecutively constructive, and back numbers of the magazine should be always accessible. Keep your sets of THE MESS-KIT intact, therefore, because it will be impossible for us to supply a demand for missing numbers.

\* \* \*

*A Subscription Coupon.* Elsewhere in this number is a Subscription Coupon which you may cut out, fill in, and return to us, with a one dollar bill currency to pay for your subscription to THE MESS-KIT for the year 1919. You will probably get many dollars' worth of satisfaction, amusement and instruction out of this little paper in the course of the year. Will you kindly write your name and address very clearly, or send us, if possible, a printed card, or typewritten copy of the same. No matter where you may move to THE MESS-KIT will be sent you each month, postpaid, and you are strongly advised to preserve your full set of copies for binding at the end of the year.

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*Subscription Agents.* Every man or woman who has worn the uniform or served the Nation in its fight against the Hun should immediately write THE MESS-KIT for a "MESS-KIT Subscription Agent's Card," giving authority to act as agent for THE MESS-KIT in taking annual subscriptions at \$1.00 a year, deducting 25 cents commission for the time and trouble involved, and remitting us the sum of 75 cents for each annual subscription. Getting subscriptions for THE MESS-KIT is pleasant, lucrative work. The public will respond quickly to the invitation to subscribe when the magazine is shown. Any business man, in any city, will pay \$1.00 for the fun and profit to be got out of THE MESS-KIT in a year's issues. Any woman will give \$1.00 gladly to have THE MESS-KIT come to her each month for a year. In this connection subscription agents for THE MESS-KIT will not write to this office for sample copies of this number to be spread abroad for the purpose of securing subscriptions. We have not the sample copies to spare, and, further, it is only necessary that the agent show the single copy and say a few words in order to secure the subscription. We can start all new subscriptions with this, the first number, but we cannot fill orders to send sample copies to this, that, or the other person in advance of receipt of subscription. Therefore, agents should not leave their single copy behind them when taking subscriptions for THE MESS-KIT, but should inform the new subscriber that the first copy will be sent from this office when the subscription is received.

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*Warning!*—The public is strongly cautioned against giving cash subscriptions to anyone who cannot produce this Agent's Card. The only safe rule to follow is to refuse positively to subscribe cash for THE MESS-KIT unless the agent can prove trustworthiness by producing this credential *on the spot*.

*A Profitable Business.* Any man or woman, figuring a commission profit of 25 cents upon each \$1.00 subscription, can be sure of making quite easily \$3.00 a day steady wages by taking subscriptions for THE MESS-KIT. \$3.00 a day means the commissions upon only 12 subscriptions. It will happen that many business firms will subscribe for 6 or 8 persons in their employ, and a day's subscriptions will often total as high as 50.

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*The Future of The Mess-Kit.* The profits realized from the publication of THE MESS-KIT belong to the enlisted men of the Base Hospital and constitute a fund placed at the disposal of the Commanding Officer of the Base Hospital for the benefit of the men of his command. It is proposed to make THE MESS-KIT of such interest to patriots everywhere that the circulation of THE MESS-KIT shall be nationwide. In the event of the closing of Camp Merritt within one year from date, or in the event of the dismantling of the Base Hospital at Camp Merritt within one year, or in the event of any unlooked-for happening which results in the discharge of the staff of THE MESS-KIT from the United States Army at any time and the discontinuance of the Base Hospital, then THE MESS-KIT will continue publication, probably issuing from New York City, with as nearly as possible the same Editorial Management as obtains at present, and with the same policy of turning its profits over to the enlisted men. This could best be guaranteed by appointing an advisory committee of citizens of national repute who shall determine how the beneficiaries of this arrangement shall continue to share in the profits. It is reasonable to believe that an organization of this nature, consisting of news-gatherers, illustrators, advertising solicitors and subscription-agents, can be held together as a unit to continue, at a right salary per annum in civil life, the work they are doing on THE MESS-KIT now as individual members of the United States Army. This explanation of policy is due to those who have subscribed for THE MESS-KIT for a year, and to those who will subscribe. This statement has also the effect of making plain to all those who take up the business of getting subscriptions for THE MESS-KIT as a business, as a means of making a good living, that the opportunity to continue to act as subscription-agent for THE MESS-KIT will not be withdrawn after a few months of training, but may be considered a permanent job, calling for promptness, accuracy, and energy, and solving for many the serious question of what to do to increase the daily pay, or even what to do for a livelihood. It is advisable, therefore, that all subscription-agents for THE MESS-KIT should show us by their zeal and accurate handling of their job at this time that they will be worth retaining later, in order that we may be sure that they are the men and women we need on our permanent staff when the time comes to fill the positions with salary attached. We can only judge your value in the future by the work you do in the present.

\* \* \*

*Cover Design and Headings.* The Cover Design and Ornamental Headings of Departments in this issue were drawn for THE MESS-KIT by Private 1/c Thomas Prince, Med. Dept., Base Hospital. The work is of an even standard of excellence throughout, the mastery of line-effects being noticeable for symmetry of execution.



# The Story of U. S. A. Base Hospital at Camp Merritt, N. J.

By the Historian

## INTRODUCTION.

THE MESS-KIT will carry the story in serial form of the big work done here in the year of war 1918, from the date of the opening of the Base Hospital on January 9, 1918. It was a big job well carried through under great difficulties. At the time of the selection of Camp Merritt as a cantonment it was not expected that a million fighting men would within one year's time arrive at this camp, and from this camp depart, for service overseas. But it happened. At the time of the opening of the Base Hospital it was not expected that 23,012 patients, averaging a stay in hospital of 14 days each, would be cared for between January 9, 1918, and November 1, a period of less than ten months. But it happened. Of these patients nearly 10,000 were returned to duty and went overseas; nearly 12,000 were transferred to other hospitals specializing in their ailments; 400 died; 500 were discharged on surgeon's certificate; 350 were sent out on domestic service only. The Base Hospital itself, designed to accommodate 500 patients, was enlarged three times, forming four successive stages of construction, with a bed-capacity during the epidemic of Influenza, in October, 1918, of 3,800. Beginning with a commissioned personnel of 20, nurses 11, and enlisted men 97, the hospital force had augmented by November 1, 1918, to 90 commissioned officers, 300 nurses, and 605 enlisted men. It is a big story; worth the telling. It could be condensed into one word—SERVICE! That covers the result. How the result was achieved is worth some detail of description. Follows the story:—

**Geographical Location.** Standing almost midway between the small towns of Creskill, one mile due east, and Dumont, three-fourths of a mile due west, the Base Hospital at Camp Merritt is pleasantly situated in the southeastern part of Bergen County, State of New Jersey, about 150 feet above sea level. Englewood, N. J., is the nearest large town, about five miles distant; Hoboken, the Port of Embarkation, lying fourteen miles to the south.

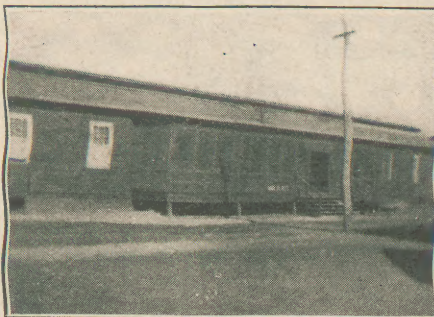


Madison Avenue, Looking East

**Terrain.** The ridge on which Camp Merritt and the Base Hospital are situated runs north and south, with a gentle slope to the south. The country surrounding the hospital is wooded to the west, east, and south, with alternating stretches of open ground. The character is lightly rolling, with natural drainage

and no flat marsh-country within ten miles, the big swamps lying far away to the south, in the neighborhood of Newark, N. J.

**Climate** The climate is typically that of the New England States, hot in summer, cold in winter, mild in the months intervening, but bracing throughout. This is not a region of high winds.



Base Hospital Receiving Ward on Madison Avenue.

**Roads** The roads about the Base Hospital were in the usual condition of dirt-roads at the time of the organization of the hospital; that is to say, good in good weather; bad in bad weather. It was necessary to put them into first-class order, and maintain them so. During the summer of 1918 concrete roads were laid to the extent of 1,117 yards; macadam roads, 1,350 yards; cinder roads, 660 yards, improved 2,450 yards. All roads were sprinkled frequently. The macadam was surfaced with calcium chloride. Interior roads were constructed with crushed stone and Tarvia. Gutters and small streams which carry off surface-waters were regularly cleaned and oiled, and to this fact was due, doubtless, the significant result that no mosquitoes were observed in and about camp or hospital throughout the summer of 1918. Decaying vegetable growth was gathered into heaps and burned. Hollows in which rain-water formerly collected were filled in, and blind drains were constructed to carry off excess water into the large streams.

**Hospital Location.** The main road that runs east and west, connecting the little towns, Dumont and Creskill, is Madison Avenue. The main road that runs north and south, cutting Madison Avenue, therefore, at right angles, is Knickerbocker Road. The Administration Building of the Base Hospital, which is the official entrance, fronts on Madison Avenue. It might be said that Madison Avenue is the main road for the hospital, and that Knickerbocker Road is the main road for the camp. From the point where Madison Avenue cuts Knickerbocker Road, going west from that point about 470 yards along Madison Avenue, begins Chestnut Street, running south from Madison Avenue, for a length of 1,045 yards, to meet a Country Road, cutting it at right angles. The Country Road is the southern boundary of a rectangle of which Chestnut Street forms the west line, Madison Avenue the north line,

and Knickerbocker Road the east line. The area of this rectangle is approximately 500 yards east and west by 1,000 yards north and south. Some extensions beyond these confines have resulted, but it is in the main correct to say that the hospital proper and all its necessary buildings lie within this rectangle. Maple Street, running east and west from Knickerbocker to Chestnut, cuts the rectangle almost accurately in half, the northern half being itself evenly divided by Elm Street, which, starting at Maple, runs north for about 250 yards to connect with the entrance to the hospital kitchen. The condition of these roads within the hospital, within the camp, and of their extensions beyond the limits of the camp, is uniformly excellent, their clean, trim, well-kept appearance testifying to the care bestowed upon them.

**Summer Stirrings.** In the latter part of August, 1917, Major, then Captain,

Lesson O. Tarleton, Medical Examiner for Recruits throughout New England, with headquarters at Boston, was assigned to Camp Merritt, N. J. as Camp Sanitary Inspector, reporting arrival, August 30th, 1917. Camp Merritt at that time was in its swaddling-clothes, with but one-half of one barracks roofed over to shelter the men of the New York Infantry doing guard duty in and around the camp, and serving also to accommodate the men of the Medical Department, assigned to the Base Hospital, as they arrived. From Madison Barracks came 3, from Fort Hancock, 12 men, with 2 non-commissioned officers. This handful constituted the enlisted personnel until October 6, 1917, when 30 men arrived from Fort Ethan Allen. During the month of September the few men on duty at the hospital were messed by the Red Cross Society at Englewood, N. J., their food coming to them by motor-car. They slept in the half-built barracks, or in the pickets' post-houses, as most convenient, and seemed to thrive on it. Later, by arrangement between Major Tarleton and the C. O. of the Infantry Regiment stationed at the camp, the men of the Base Hospital Detachment messed with the 49th in the latter's kitchen building on



Picket House

Block 9. On November 28, 1917, a further lot of 48 men came from Camp Bartlett, swelling the enlisted personnel to 97.

**Temporary Hospital.** While the Base Hospital was in course of construction, throughout the summer and fall of 1917, the 12-bed hospital and dis



pensary, fitted up by MacArthur Bros., the contractors, at their own expense, for the use of their own men, in the building used now as officer's quarters, on Madison Avenue, was made use of to care for minor cases, accidents, &c., occurring among the civilian help. Accidents were not uncommon at that time, and members of the Medical Detachment were assigned to duty in turn to work in this dispensary and hospital for the sake of the training afforded in emergency work. The Red Cross Society at Creskill, one mile east of the hospital, offered the use of its building in October, 1917, as a temporary hospital, if needed, and some few patients were transported thither by ambulance.

During November, 1917, troop movements through Camp Merritt, which was then beginning to take its place among the embarkation camps, became a matter of importance to the Camp Hospital because of the number of sick men attached to these moving organizations who were dropped for immediate medical attention. There was an epidemic of measles, with some scarlet fever, mumps, German measles and tonsillitis, also some few cases of pneumonia and diphtheria. In the absence of adequate local hospital quarters all serious cases were sent by the Camp Surgeon to St. Mary's Hospital, Hoboken, N. J., a distance of about 14 miles, by combined ambulance and train

service. This necessitated too much handling of patients, and too long a trip for the very sick, and on December 19, 1917, through verbal instructions from the Surgeon, P. of E., the Commanding Officer of the Base Hospital took over two wards in the civilian hospital at Englewood, N. J., for the use of sick soldiers, the Medical Department furnishing the supplies through its Property Officer, Lieut. (now Captain) George Griffith. This meant a journey of 5 miles only, entirely by ambulance, the fatigue of which could be well borne. A total of 72 patients were sent from Camp Merritt to Englewood Hospital, among which were 17 cases of lobar pneumonia, 18



*Group of Officers, Camp Merritt Base Hospital*

*Officer.*

*Permanent Address.*

1. Charles A. Robbins, Capt., M. C., Dixon, Ill.
2. Henry G. Anderson, Capt., M. C., Waterbury, Conn.
3. Elbert A. Palmer, Capt., M. C., U. S. A., Base Hospital, Camp Merritt, N. J.
4. Louis J. Ladin, Major, M. C., New York City.
5. Samuel A. Cosgrove, Major, M. C., 25 Union St., Jersey City, N. J.
6. Percy Bartlett, Major, M. C., Hanover, N. H.
7. Edward S. Rimer, Major, M. C., U. S. A., Base Hospital, Camp Merritt, N. J.
8. Jesse I. Sloat, Major, M. C., Commanding Officer, U. S. A. Base Hospital, Camp Merritt, N. J.
9. William B. Tatum, 1st Lieut., M. C., Center, Ala.
10. Griffith A. Thomas, Capt., M. C., 661 Agnes Ave., Detroit, Mich.
11. John A. Harris, Capt., M. C., Webb, Miss.
12. John J. English, Capt., M. C., Troy, N. Y.
13. Harry K. Carey, Capt., M. C., Brooklyn, N. Y.
14. Harry E. Stevens, Capt., M. C., 671 Main Street, Lewiston, Me.
15. Howard C. Hoff, 1st Lieut., M. C., 3505 Broadway, New York City.
16. Virginius Brown, Capt., M. C., Tenaflly, N. J.
17. Jesse R. Cooper, Capt., M. C., United States Army.
18. Carl C. Persons, 1st Lieut., M. C., 1 Linden St., Manard, Mass.
19. Morris T. Koven, 1st Lieut., M. C., 1539 Pitkin Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
20. Frederick Terwilliger, Capt., M. C., Spencer, N. Y.
21. Samuel G. Jump, Capt., M. C., Muncie, Ind.
22. Winslow C. Chambers, Capt., M. C., Blue Earth, Minnesota.
23. Walter S. Lyon, 1st Lieut., M. C., 857 Second St., Fall River, Mass.
24. Michael S. Granelli, Capt., M. C., 213 Gordon St., Hoboken, N. J.
25. George Griffith, Capt., San. Corps, 5605 Fourth Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
26. Lester Dragstedt, 2nd Lieut., San. Corps, Iowa City, Iowa.
27. James B. Mann, 1st Lieut., M. C., Calmesneil, Texas.

*Officer.*

*Permanent Address.*

28. Henry E. Marks, 1st Lieut., M. C., 339 Berkeley St., Rochester, N. Y.
29. David G. Sampson, 1st Lieut., 2603 West Prospect Place, Kansas City, Mo.
30. Torrence J. Boyle, 1st Lieut., Chaplain, Chestnut Hill, Mass.
31. Edward R. B. McGee, 1st Lieut., M. C., High St., Berlin, N. J.
32. William P. Gemmill, 1st Lieut., M. C., Kessen, Penna.
33. Joseph D. Milot, 1st Lieut., M. C., Fall River, Mass.
34. Edward S. Jones, 1st Lieut., M. C., 12 Arden St., New York City.
35. David P. Ferris, 1st Lieut., M. C., Fuls, Minnesota.
36. William D. Cawthorn, 1st Lieut., M. C., 76 William St., N. Y. City.
37. Amos E. Fried, 1st Lieut., M. C., 1764 E. Fifty-fifth St., Cleveland, Ohio.
38. Howard O. Leinhardt, 1st Lieut., M. C., Kansas City, Mo.
39. Max M. Kulvinsky, 1st Lieut., M. C., Chicago, Ill.
40. Duffield D. MacGillivray, 1st Lieut., M. C., Pine Village, Ind.
41. Algernon A. Palmer, 1st Lieut., M. C., Detroit, Mich.
42. Edward W. Barron, Capt., M. C. Manning, S. C.
43. Robert L. Johnson, Capt., M. C., Wadsworth, Ohio.
44. James N. Quick, 1st Lieut., M. C., Muncie, Ind.
45. Thomas Dugan, 1st Lieut., M. C., 311 Water St., Huntington, W. Va.
46. Winfred M. Johnston, 1st Lieut., M. C. 624 Main St., Fostoria, Ohio.
47. Thomas B. Allen, 1st Lieut., D. C., Four Oaks, N. C.
48. Hugh J. Ryan, 1st Lieut., D. C., DuBois, Penna.
49. Adam G. Heilman, 1st Lieut., M. C., Lebanon, Penna.
50. Thomas J. Bush, 1st Lieut., M. C., Clarksdale, Miss.
51. Francis M. Rackamann, 1st Lieut., M. C., 21 Chestnut St., Englewood, N. J.
52. Burnice E. Morgan, 1st Lieut., M. C., Stockville, N. C.
53. Samuel Brock, 1st Lieut., M. C., 159 West 125th St., New York City.
54. Walter B. Mount, 1st Lieut., M. C., 21 Plymouth Street, Montclair, N. J.
- (Extreme left end, 3rd row.) H. K. Peltekian, 1st Lieut. M. C., Baltimore, Maryland.



# Wearing of the Uniform—Discipline and Military Courtesy

THE following instructions relative to the wearing of the uniform, disciplinary measures pertaining thereto and military courtesy, are published for the information and guidance of all concerned.

1. *Regulations.*—The regulations governing the uniform of the United States Army and its wear are as prescribed in Special Regulations Nos. 41 and 42, War Department, 1917, as changed. Generally speaking, these regulations will be strictly interpreted, but it is recognized that, in a large measure, the present laxness in conforming to the regulations has grown up as a result of the original unpreparedness of the United States in the matter of supply of clothing and equipment at the outbreak of the war. It is neither the policy nor the desire of the War Department to work a hardship, either on persons severing their relations with the military service or those who have signified their intention to remain by requiring abandonment of necessary articles of clothing or equipment which were purchased in good faith in a time of urgent necessity. This principle will necessarily bring about a recognition of certain departures from the strict letter of the regulations; but, on the other hand, it does not condone many of the violations of regulations which are practiced at present.

2. *Exceptions.*—The following exceptions to the Uniform Regulations are authorized for the present:

(a) Many officers returning from abroad are wearing uniform coats, apparently made in England or by English tailors, which are cut in a manner similar to the English tunic, generally with a long skirt, either with or without a slit in the back, or with large bellows pockets, especially lower pockets. Officers being discharged or soon to be discharged will not be required to discard these coats, provided the variations in cut are not so exaggerated as to cause the uniform actually to be confused with that of the British or some other foreign army. Those officers who intend to remain in the service will not be required to discard these coats until such time as they can be reasonably expected to do so without causing them undue financial hardship.

(b) Officers wearing brass buttons on their uniform coats will, if they have signified their intention to remain in the service, be required to replace them with the uniform bronzed button. Officers soon to be discharged will not be required to make this change.

(c) The wearing of breeches made of a different colored cloth or cloth of a different material from the coat will for the present be authorized, provided these breeches are not of such an exaggerated color or cut as to present an incongruous appearance.

(d) The matter of overcoats, boots and shoes and leggins presents many difficulties. So many different types have been worn and their wear apparently permitted that it is considered unwise at this time to require more than a nominal conformity with existing regulations. The question of the necessity of rapid procurement has affected these articles of the uniform more perhaps than any others. Provided the

officer presents a creditable appearance and his uniform is easily recognizable as that of a commissioned officer of the United States Army, he will not be required to discard articles which will require immediate replacement. Any overcoat which has been worn and apparently authorized in any organization may be worn by those soon to be discharged. This includes overcoats with fur collars, leather coats, short moleskin coats, trench coats, etc. Officers' leggins or boots will be of leather. Enlisted men will not be permitted to wear leather leggins or boots.

(e) The oversea cap, the divisional Army Corps or Field Army insignia worn on the left sleeve just below shoulder and the spiral cloth puttees (this latter for enlisted men only) are authorized for troops returning from overseas for demobilization or discharge. This includes casuals and sick or wounded, officers and enlisted men alike. For officers and men who are to remain in the service and who are assigned to active duty in this country these articles are not authorized and will not be permitted except that the spiral puttee may be authorized for field service. In general, the rule that officers and men should conform to the uniforms of the organizations of which they are a part will be applied.

(f) The Sam Browne or Liberty Belt is not authorized in this country and will not be worn. This belt is the distinguishing mark of the commissioned officer abroad, but there is no necessity for its introduction into the United States.

3. *Decorations.*—The prescribed wound and service chevrons and special individual decorations such as the medal of honor, Distinguished Service Cross and medal and the appropriate ribbon sections are a part of the uniform. Special individual decorations from foreign governments, such as the French Croix de Guerre or similar decorations from other foreign governments are authorized. These decorations will be worn as prescribed in Special Regulations No. 41, War Department, 1917. The French shoulder cord known as the fourragere is, however, a part of the French uniform and only two American organizations are authorized to wear it, namely, Sanitary Section 646 and the 103d Aero Squadron. Citations are not sufficient, special authorization for the fourragere must come from the French Government. Such decorations as gold and silver stars on the sleeves, unauthorized campaign ribbons, gold chevrons presumed to denote that the wearer has been a prisoner of war, or denoting any service other than prescribed for such chevrons are not authorized and will not be permitted.

4. *Discipline.*—The question of laxity in dress, the wearing of dirty, soiled or torn uniforms, combinations of uniform and civilian clothing, unbuttoned coats or overcoats, etc., is for officers and men still in the service entirely a question of discipline and will be treated as such.

For discharged officers and men the matter of discipline is beyond the control of the military authorities. It is not possible, nor is it intended, that the military authorities should prevent the wearing by

discharged officers and men of uniforms which do not conform to specifications. The present law prevents the wearing of the uniform, for discharged enlisted men except en route from the place of discharge to their home, which journey may take place within or may consume three months from the date of discharge. The uniform must be returned to the Government within four months of the date of discharge. For discharged officers the law is the same, except that the uniforms being the property of the officers, are not required to be returned and the officers may also wear them on occasion of ceremony. There is, however, a bill before Congress to allow discharged officers and men to retain and wear their uniforms indefinitely. In view of the fact that this bill is clearly the result of public opinion and will probably be enacted into law, it is thought best to consider it as already in force in so far as it allows officers and enlisted men to retain and wear their uniforms for the time being.

5. *The Red Chevrons.*—The red chevron was adopted in order to distinguish discharged enlisted men from those still in the service. The fact that it is, perhaps, being used in some cases by enlisted men still in the service as a means of deceiving the military authorities is not sufficient cause to warrant its removal. These cases are subject to disciplinary action and military commanders have the power to make this particular breach of regulations highly unprofitable for the offenders. Discharged men seem to be willing and ready to wear the chevron, even when necessary to purchase it from civilian firms. It is not considered advisable to attempt to obtain legislation rendering discharged men in uniform subject to military discipline. The red chevron, while admittedly not a universal panacea, is the only practical plan so far suggested to maintain the distinctive character of the uniform when worn by soldiers as distinguished from ex-soldiers.

6. *Protection of the Uniform.*—The impersonation of officers and the wearing of uniforms by those not entitled to do so is a question in most cases for the civil authorities to handle. These cases should be prosecuted by the civil authorities under the provisions of Sec. 125, Act of Congress, June 3, 1916. (Bul. 16, W. D., 1916.) This act provides for its violation a penalty upon conviction of not to exceed \$300 fine, or six months' imprisonment, or both.

7. *Military Courtesy.*—Commanding officers should take proper disciplinary action to insure that the rules of military courtesy are carefully observed by all officers and men alike connected with the service. This cannot be forced upon discharged officers and men who do not desire to be governed by these rules.

(421, A. G. O.)

By order of the Secretary of War.

PEYTON C. MARCH,  
General, Chief of Staff.

Official:

P. C. HARRIS,  
The Adjutant-General.



scarlet fever, and 4 acute appendicitis. The appendicitis cases were all operated on without fatality. One death occurred from lobar pneumonia. The isolation ward for the scarlet fever cases, containing exactly 18 beds, was filled on December 20, the day it opened, with just that number of scarlet fever cases from the camp, Captain (now Major) Edward S. Rimer, being in charge of this service, assisted by Lieut. Wm. B. Tatum. Through the great kindness of the nursing staff of the Englewood Hospital, who voluntarily gave up their rooms in a wing of the hospital, and took up their quarters in private homes in the vicinity, 22 beds became available at once for pneumonia cases. This arrangement with the Englewood Hospital continued in force until the opening of the Base Hospital on January 9, 1918. Too much praise and thanks can hardly be accorded to the kindness, courtesy and splendid co-operation on the part of the hospital authorities, doctors, and nurses of the Englewood Hospital throughout this trying time.

**Organizing.** No definite date can be easily fixed upon as the date of organization of the Base Hospital. On October 29, 1917, Major Tarleton was appointed Commanding Officer of the Base Hospital, a position which he held until his transfer to Hoboken, N. J., on February 9, 1918, as Assistant to the Sanitary Inspector at the Port. On October 29, 1917, arrived Captain (now Major) Edward S. Rimer, followed a day or two later by Major Arthur W. Cutler and Lieut. (now Major) Jesse I. Sloat. This was, perhaps, the date of organization of the Base Hospital, Captain Rimer assuming charge of the Medical Service, Major Cutler acting as Chief of the Surgical Service, and Lieut. Sloat combining the duties of C. O. of the Medical Detachment and Adjutant. The executive offices of the hospital were in the Stanley Clark home on Madison Avenue, known as Constructing Quartermaster's Headquarters, and then, as now, used by the Constructing Quartermaster and staff. Sleeping quarters for the officers of the hospital staff were in the Berry House, taken over for that purpose by the Government in September, 1917, while the Officer's Quarters on Madison Avenue was in course of completion. Assisting Major Tarleton in the light sani-

tary duties of the camp previous to the organization of the Base Hospital two officers only are of record, Lieut. Edward J. Davin, M. R. C., who was shortly transferred again to the Department of the Camp Surgeon and Lieut. Edward M. French. On that date, October 30, 1917, Colonel J. M. Kennedy was surgeon of the P. of E., Hoboken, N. J., and in control of Camp Merritt Base Hospital activities.

**Increasing Personnel.** It was well on into the month of December, 1917, however, before the staff of the Base Hospital had augmented sufficiently to care for the needs of the hospital service. On December 5, 1917, arrived Lieut. George Griffith (now Captain Griffith) as



*Old Officers' Quarters on Madison Avenue*

Officer of Medical Supplies for the Hospital. Captain Griffith A. Thomas, Mess Officer, and Capt. John A. Harris, Receiving Officer, with Captain (now Major) Wallace C. Dyer, who was early made Registrar, were added to the staff within a week; Captain (now Major) Ernest F. Krug, being assigned to this hospital as aid to the Surgical Service before the close of the month.

**Opening Date.** The Base Hospital at Camp Merritt was formally opened on January 9, 1918, at 1 p. m., with a personnel of 20 commissioned officers, 11 nurses, 97 enlisted men, and a bed capacity of 416.

**Heads of Departments.** The Heads of Service and Departments concerned with the Base Hospital on date of opening, January 9, 1918, were:—

Surgeon, P. of E., Hoboken, N. J., J. M. Kennedy, Colonel, M.C.  
 Commanding Officer, Lesson O. Tarleton, Major, M.C.  
 Adjutant and C. O. Med. Dept., Jesse I. Sloat, 1st. Lieut., M.C.  
 Registrar, Wallace C. Dyer, Captain, M.R.C.  
 Chief of Medical Service, Edward S. Rimer, Captain, M.R.C.  
 Chief of Surgical Service, Arthur W. Cutler, Major, M.R.C.  
 Chief of Head-Surgery, Ernest F. Krug, Captain, M.R.C.  
 Chief of Dental Service, Frank de S. Tucker, 1st. Lieut., M.R.C.  
 Receiving Officer, John A. Harris, Captain, M.R.C.  
 Property Officer, George Griffith, 1st. Lieut., S.C.  
 Mess Officer, Griffith A. Thomas, Capt., M.R.C.  
 Chief Nurse, Lillian J. Ryan.  
 On date, November 1, 1918, Heads of Service and Departments were as follows:—  
 Surgeon, P. of E., Hoboken, N. J., J. M. Kennedy, Colonel, M.C.  
 Commanding Officer, Jesse I. Sloat, Major, M.C.  
 Adjutant, William B. Tatum, 1st. Lieut., M.C.  
 Registrar, Isaac J. Jones, Captain, M.C.  
 Personnel Adjutant, Arthur F. Hoge, 1st. Lieut. M.C.  
 C. O. Med. Dept., D. G. Sampson, 1st. Lieut., M.C.  
 Chief of Medical Service, Edward S. Rimer, Major, M.C.  
 Chief of Surgical Service, Percy Bartlett, Major, M.C.  
 Chief of Head-Surgery, Ernest F. Krug, Major, M.C.  
 Chief of Laboratory Service, Raymond Sanderson, Captain, M.C.  
 Roentgenologist, Jesse R. Cooper, Captain, M.C.  
 Chief of Dental Service, James B. Mann, 1st. Lieut., M.C.  
 Receiving Officer, John A. Harris, Captain, M.C.  
 Property Officer, George Griffith, Captain, S.C.  
 Mess Officer, Griffith A. Thomas, Captain, M.C.  
 Chief Nurse, Lillian J. Ryan.  
 Quartermaster, William M. Smith, Captain, Q.M.C.  
 (To be Continued)

## Treatment of Overseas Patients at Camp Merritt Base Hospital

*By Hospital Sergeant Roy Spivey*

### INTRODUCTORY

After the signing of the armistice this Base Hospital was selected as one of the Evacuation Hospitals for soldiers returning from France. On December 11, 1918, the first consignment of overseas patients, to the number of 1,190, arrived from the U. S. Steamship *Sierra*. The number received at this hospital to date, February 10, 1919, is 9,167. The sick and wounded men are unloaded at the Army piers, Hoboken, N. J., and transported to Camp Merritt by way of Dumont on the West Shore Railroad. Ambulances and motor-trucks are awaiting their arrival to convey them to the Base Hospital. No matter at what hour of day or night they arrive at the Base Hospital, the first want attended to is a good warm meal. Their clothing is sent to the hospital sterilizer,

and they are put to bed in clean hospital clothing. They are, to a man, ready for bed, after the fatigues and grime of travel, and they revel in the sense of cleanliness that enfolds them. The routine of dealing with their cases is briefly a careful physical examination by a staff of medical officers to determine the extent of the injury in each case and the future treatment indicated. These data are entered upon the evacuation card of each patient. These cards, covering name, rank, organization, home address, and extent of disability, are thus classified to direct the transfer of the patients to one or other of the Reconstruction Hospitals nearest their homes. The Medical Department of the United States Army can choose the suitable destination for the overseas patient from a total list of ninety Recon-

struction Hospitals, General Hospitals, and Base Hospitals in the various camps scattered over the country. It is a matter of from ten to fourteen days from the time the overseas patients are admitted to this Base Hospital until they are transferred to the hospital nearest their homes. During this time, while here, the men are paid in full up to date, some of them having received no pay for six or seven months while confined to hospitals in France. The Camp Merritt Quartermaster has established a finance office in connection with Base Hospital business, and the Base Hospital Personnel Adjutant is able, by this means, to take care that each and every soldier is fully paid before leaving this hospital. These men returning from overseas have no service records with them. They are



paid all money due them, on their sworn affidavits, an emergency measure adopted by the War Department to meet this situation and save the overseas men the annoyance of waiting longer for their pay. The returning men, sick, wounded, some of them maimed for life, are, nevertheless, cheerful and even boisterously happy at getting home again. They are anxious to be transferred to their homes as speedily



*Electrical Massage*

as possible. Everything possible to add to their comfort and make their stay here pleasant, is done for them, and excellent results have been obtained from the special treatments given these overseas patients by the competent staff of surgeons and nurses assigned to Ward 32, which is given over to these treatments of overseas men. They derive great comfort also from the daily ministrations and visits to their various wards of members of the Y. M. C. A., Jewish Welfare Board, Knights of Columbus, Red Cross, American Library Association, and numerous other welfare organizations who try to make the patients' stay in hospital as pleasant as possible in an effort to lighten the tedium of hours spent in recuperation by men who have given their best services to their country.

#### DETAIL OF TREATMENT

*By 1st Lieut. Samuel Brock, M.C., U. S. A.*

With the influx into this Base Hospital of large numbers of overseas patients, new problems arose concerning the disposition and treatment of these patients.



*Nerve Testing*

While at first it was believed that the stay of these men here would be a very transient one, incident to their evacuation to hospitals of the interior, it later became evident that a goodly number would remain here for a sufficient length of time to make the treatment of their bone, joint and nerve injuries an important issue. To meet this exigency it was decided to establish a neurological-orthopedic clinic, at a

central point to which ward surgeons could send cases of this kind requiring special treatment. Ward 32 was chosen as being the most equi-distant from Blocks 21 and 17, and as being generally central. On January 9, 1919, this neuro-orthopedic clinic opened its doors.

In the period from January 9 to February 6 inclusive, 527 cases have been treated or examined at the clinic. Upon entrance into the clinic the patient is directed first to the office, where the head nurse makes out a card upon which is recorded the patient's index number, name, rank and organization, together with the gross nature and location of his injury and the date on which it was incurred. The patient is then sent into the ward to be examined. The results of the examination, the diagnosis and the treatment recommended are thereupon recorded on the card. Upon leaving the ward after treatment, the patient deposits his card in the office with the nurse, who files it in an alphabetical index. When the patient returns for treatment in the afternoon of the same day, or, as is usual, on the day



*Lieuts. S. Brock and T. Koven*

following, the date and nature of the treatment are recorded upon it.

Broadly speaking, the cases have resolved themselves into two large groups: 1. Deformities due to bone, tendon and joint injuries, or orthopedic; and, 2. Disabilities, paralyses, etc., consequent upon nerve injury, or neurologic. The orthopedic cases, which have constituted the majority, have been treated under the direction of Lieutenant T. Koven. One of the essential methods used in bone and joint injuries is the concentrated application of heat to the affected part, i. e., "baking." Accordingly, the ward kitchen was converted into a baking-room, and five "electric ovens" were installed. Here the patients "bake" their knees, shoulders, ankles, etc., and by so bringing more blood to the affected part aid nature's reparative processes. In certain cases, the patients bathe their arms, hands, feet, etc., in hot aqueous baths to bring about the same result. Following the "baking," most patients have their joints and bones manipulated, or their muscles massaged. In the former case, the stiffened joints are manipulated by the specially trained nurses, in an attempt to accomplish a greater range of mobility of

the joint; in the latter case, diseased muscles are rubbed to increase their supply of blood and to allow them to regenerate. An excellent exercise machine, kindly donated for the purpose by the Y. M. C. A., is also used to limber joints, muscles, and weak parts, serving as a very useful adjunct to the methods mentioned.

Both in the orthopedic and in the neurological cases splints of various kinds are



*After "Baking"*

very essential in the prevention of the stretching of the paralyzed muscles and the associated tightening of opposed non-paralyzed muscles. The important matter of making splints devolving upon the orthopedic department, it has necessitated the installation of a combination workshop in the sun parlor of the ward, where, under the supervision of Lieutenant Koven, Private Wm. Allison of the Base Hospital detachment makes the required splints out of wire, tin, or other material, or adapts shoes, structurally modifying them, to relieve foot conditions of various kinds.

The neurological cases have been treated under the direction of Captain J. C. Fiske. When nerves are injured or severed, and muscular paralysis threatens or exists, as a consequence, massage and electrical treatments are indicated. The former "isolation room" has been converted into an "electric room," wherein various electric instruments, massage machines, etc., have been installed, generating and directing the currents used to stimulate diseased muscles. These mechanical aids have been of distinct benefit in the treatment of



*Massage of Neck Muscles*

these cases. In the ward are benches for the men awaiting treatment, two additional "electric baths", and massage-tables at which the nurses massage and manipulate the injured limbs.

The nurses on duty in Ward 32 are Misses Seybold, Benoit, Hegenmuller, Simsonson, Murray and Fritchey; the officers, Captain J. C. Fiske, Lieutenant T. Koven and Lieutenant Samuel Brock; the enlisted personnel, Privates William Allison, John Harper and Ace Edmondson.



## RESULTS OF TREATMENT OF OVERSEAS PATIENTS AT CAMP MERRITT BASE HOSPITAL REVIEWED

By Samuel Cosgrove, Major, M.C.,  
U. S. A.

Before arriving at this Base Hospital these overseas patients have spent a period of four to six weeks, or even longer, in being collected from the Base Hospitals in Europe, in the Embarkation Hospitals there, where any but the most emergent treatment is not available, and in the voyage back to this port. This means that many of the conditions which surgeons have the most difficulty in contending with, as wound sequelae, scar contractures, joint immobilization, nerve paralyses, "disuse" weakness and shriveling of muscles, have had ample time to develop before the cases come to us; moreover, the patients have become cognizant of these secondary disabilities, have appreciated their menace to their ultimate functional recovery, and the importance of the time element in instituting measures for their amelioration, and are most anxious to have the benefit of such measures as soon as possible.

As indicated in the introductory note by Hospital Sergeant Spivey, the necessary period of delay between the admission of these patients and their transfer to the General Hospitals where final definite treatment can be undertaken, is about two weeks. It therefore immediately suggested itself to the Chiefs of Service that this period of waiting might well be utilized in the study of the conditions outlined, and in beginning the indicated lines of treatment, which should be carried to their conclusion and full fruition in the General Hospitals later; that in so utilizing it, the benefit to the men, not only physically, but from the standpoint of morale, would be incalculable; and that to fail in so utilizing it would be to fail in our duty to our wounded, and to the noble purpose of our Government that no wounded man shall leave the service with a permanent disability greater than the most advanced therapy can obviate.

It was apparent that this work could be most efficiently accomplished by centralizing it. Ward 32 was therefore converted wholly to it, and there has been installed there a most complete equipment of electro- and thermo-therapeutic apparatus, of the best manufacture; special nursing personnel has been assigned there to insure accuracy in records and the most experienced and expert massage and dressing service; the entire work has been thoroughly systematized, so that no patient, of the thousands who have passed through our hands, has failed to receive the special care demanded by his condition.

Under the supervision and general direction of Captain J. C. Fiske, of the Neuro-Psychiatric Service, the splendid enthusiasm and conscientious labor of Lieutenant Samuel Brock, also of the Neurological service of the Base Hospital, and Lieutenant T. Koven, orthopedist, have discovered in this clinic a wealth of material which has been the source of much interest to the entire staff, and have developed the treatment to a state of efficiency which all who have watched the work are confident represents very considerable results for the time available in the several cases.

Incidentally, it is believed by the writer, on authentic report, that at no other hospital in the jurisdiction of the Port has similar work been attempted on so ambitious a scale.

## Our Patients From Overseas

Written and Sketched for The Mess-Kit

By Private Philip M. Current, Base Hospital, Med. Dept.

1. Corporal Henry C. Kaus, cook, 168th Infantry, is a patient at the Base Hospital who is well content to have his meals brought to him. He has seen his Field Kitchen lifted into the air by an exploding shell when he was serving with the 42nd Division, composed of the 168th Infantry and other regiments, in April, 1918. He was wounded twice and gassed once,

direct hits too often to be a matter of luck. A lot of my help 'went West.' I was lucky to get through. They're licked all right, but I haven't forgiven them by a darned sight. If our fellows had been given the chance to clean this job up right, there wouldn't be any German Army left today to make any trouble in the future. No, sir. The job would have



Corporal Kaus Studying Practical Aviation

while his Division was serving with General Gouraud's Army in the month of July, 1918, near Champagne. He was at Chateau Thierry, and when the call came for volunteers to carry the train of supplies and ammunition to the boys in the lines, Corporal Kaus went along and helped to get the train safely through. He was hit by shrapnel in the head and leg, but was "carrying on" until the gas put his light out. The Corporal, however, takes such matters as wounds philosophically. The thing that annoys him is that the Boches should have taken such pains to put his Field Kitchen out of business. "A man can't fight at his best if he doesn't eat," he says, "and it looked to me as though they made a special target of our kitchens. They used to make

been done right. It wasn't so bad, but it could have been better. A dead German is the only good German." Corporal Kaus is a veteran of the Spanish-American and Mexican scraps, to which is now added the European War, but he by no means considers it "three times and out." "I'm ready any old time the country needs me," he says. It happened in the Spanish-American War that the Corporal, then a Private in the 15th Cavalry, was shot through the jaw-bone, the injury causing his discharge from the Service. Being a handy man, he became a restaurant-keeper in civil life and his skill with flap-jacks got him the job of Cook on his second enlistment. He was attached to the Iowa National Guard as Instructor, demonstrating the Field Kitchen. He came back



from the Border just in time to re-enlist in the Army that went after the Hun. On his arrival in France he put in a short period of training before the 168th was sent into the lines at Luneville, Saint Clement and the Baccarat sector. There, under the command of the 8th French Army, the training was completed by April 1, 1918. Coupling up with other regiments, the 42nd Division was then formed, taking up the sector entrusted to the American forces. The 42nd Division held an active but stationary front for three months before being sent to Champagne to cooperate with General Gouraud's Army. Here followed that defensive fighting, up to July 15, which stemmed the tide of the German advance. From there Corporal Kaus was moved to Chateau Thierry, in the northern region of that historic spot, and it was here that he was wounded and gassed. He was sent first to a dressing station, then to Schloin, and from there to Field Hospital No. 13. From there to F. H. 15, and on to a Casual Camp at Brest. He was reported fit for light duty, but a more careful examination by a Camp Surgeon resulted in his being returned to the United States. He speaks contentedly of his treatment at this Base Hospital, averring that it is the best Army Hospital he has ever had an acquaintance with. He will be held here until it is decided by the Medical Staff which Army Hospital is best suited, situated and equipped to handle his case. He is a cheerful, happy sort of man and has made many friends during his stay here by the force of his good humor.

2. Private Samuel Saplio, Co. "G," 111th Infantry, commonly known to all men of the Company and elsewhere as "Saplio," is a sniper of snipers. He took a strong dislike to the Hun sharpshooters, posted in trees, and Private Saplio says there is no thrill quite equal to the joy of potting the skilled sniper, crumpling him up with a bullet and watching him fall out of his nest in a heap. He says it is Art in War, and Private Saplio considers himself something of an artist in his pet line of work. With Sergeant John W. Thompson, Private Saplio attacked an enemy machine-gun post, killed the gun-crews, working his own machine-gun like a fire-cracker, and captured the post with its ten machine-guns. For this little stunt he received the Distinguished Service Cross, No. 3699, which was presented to him at this Base Hospital, January 29, 1919. It was on the 16th day of August, 1918, that Private Saplio reluctantly turned his attention from sniping to machine-gun nests. It happened in the Argonne Forest, near Fisme. Private Saplio was looking for ordinary quarry on the ground, but luck was with him on this occasion, and the machine-gun nest that had been worrying the Company seriously for some time was located twenty feet from the surface of the earth, well



*Pvt. Saplio Starting Something*

hidden in trees. This was where Private Saplio and Art once more shook hands. What happened to that machine-gun nest has already been told. Sam and his sergeant did not leave a single enemy gunner alive. They captured the 10 machine-guns, which were taken charge of by the Company, arriving speedily with congratulations. His comrades found Sam a little the worse for wear, having fourteen machine-gun bullet wounds in him, but still full of fight. For this he wears the Croix de Guerre and our Distinguished Service Cross. Assuredly these decorations never adorned the breast of a stouter soldier. Sam is all fighter. He is built for the game. Short, close-knit, thick-set, active, quick as a cat, and game to the core. Fourteen body wounds do not tell the story at all. One bullet, and it is lucky for Sam that he is not an inch over five feet in height, ploughed a furrow along the centre of his skull, grazed him, scarcely bled at all, parted his hair for him permanently, you might say, and passed out through his helmet. He has also a bayonet wound in the thigh near the right hip, but nothing bothered him seriously until they gassed him. That was near Fisme, about the 8th of September. Private Saplio is, of course, an American-Italian, the kind of hyphenated American we are most proud of. He was born at Santa Teresa d'Arrive, Messina, Italy, and emigrated to the United States when a child. He worked in civil life as an electrician. He speaks but little English, living the greater part of his life among his compatriots at Yonkers, N. Y., and making his home with his friend, Vincenzo Nuccilli, at 75 School Street. Private Saplio was discharged from the United States Army a few weeks ago and left wearing his Crosses on his breast, with the best wishes of all who had known him in this Base Hospital. He was

never quite clear about the necessity for any hospital treatment in his case, feeling quite fit to get into action again at any time. He confessed to a stuffy feeling in his lungs if he tried to run, the result of the gas. His wounds do not bother him. He enjoyed his stay here, made many friends, and departed with the expressed hope that the United States would pick a quarrel again shortly with Germany, there being a chance that, in that event, he would be permitted to attend to a little further sniping. The man is wedded to his Art.

*(To be continued)*

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# Handling Mail for Overseas Patients

By Sergeant Ronahan

*in charge of the Base Hospital Post Office*

In no Department of Hospital Service are accuracy and promptness more essential than in the handling of the mail of soldiers. This is more than ever true when the soldier is an arrival from overseas. He is likely to be besieged with letters from his relatives which have, perhaps, followed him to this hospital, asking him, begging him, to write at once to allay their anxiety as to his health. They are sure that he has concealed the dreadful truth from them that he is seriously wounded, perhaps crippled for life. Unless he has lost an arm or a leg why was he sent to a base hospital, why was he not immediately sent home to them that they might nurse him back to health? When can they see him? Was he able to sit up at all? He had told them that he was wounded, but would be all right in a day or two. Had his wound become infected? Was there any danger of blood poisoning? Friends and relatives of the wounded from overseas, if they are unable to satisfy themselves of his comfort by a visit and personal chat with him, have to try to bridge the distance by mail. There is no other way. The Army Hospital, as part of its regular, daily routine work, telegraphs accurately every day to the nearest kin of the soldier-patient the

from the Hospital Command to the relatives of the overseas patients, because the patient is as well as can be, eats heartily, sleeps soundly and has a good time generally. He finds himself with plenty of mail to be answered, and he is very anxious that his letters shall reach him promptly.

The conditions are not the best in the world for rapid handling of mail. Some disappointment to him and to those who are most anxious to hear from him is almost certain to occur because of the transference of a soldier from one place to another without warning. But we do the best we can, and complaints of delay are uncommon. Overseas men, who have been arriving at this Base Hospital in large numbers, do not remain long with us. They are transferred to other hospitals more suited to their cases, or they are discharged to other camps nearer their homes. Upon disembarking at Hoboken, N. J., they telegraph their relatives that they are destined for Camp Merritt, N. J. Letters begin immediately to arrive for these patients, addressed to Camp Merritt. The camp has no trace of the men. The mail is forwarded to the Base Hospital. An orderly from the Base Hospital Post Office carries these bundles of letters, awaiting claimants, to the Sick and Wounded office, traces up the name through the files, locates the addressee in the right ward, and delivers the mail to his eager hand. The same routine must be continued for some weeks after a certain patient has left this hospital. His mail will continue to arrive; his name and new address must be traced up and his mail dispatched after him as rapidly as possible. At this hospital we receive mail from France in bulk. If the patient is not here we forward it to the address to which he went from here. At that address it will be forwarded again, if he has been transferred from there. It happens sometimes that in the space of three months a patient will have been transferred several times. A letter from France to him will require several forwardings. But he will receive it. The military post office system takes an infinity of trouble to ensure that a letter addressed to a patient who is somewhere else shall reach that patient's hands eventually, and contact be made in the shortest possible time. Care, patience, accuracy, speed have made the post office service of Camp Merritt Base Hospital satisfactory to those who know how right service is attained, by steady plodding and system.



Left to right: Pvt. Culver, Pvt. Ruth, Sgt. Ronahan, Pvt. 1/c Klein, Pvt. Witt, Pvt. 1/c Taylor, Pvt. Sloan

state of his health, if, at any time while he is in hospital he should contract any disease of a dangerous type such as pneumonia, diphtheria, etc., but the overseas patients that are received at Camp Merritt Base Hospital are convalescents, or slightly wounded only. They are well able to walk to their meals at the general mess-hall, and are here not because they are sick, but because they need a little special treatment to hasten their recovery to a life of usefulness. There is no need in such case for the transmission of telegrams

## War Risk Insurance

The question of whether the enlisted man should retain his War Risk Insurance after his discharge from the Army has been fairly answered by Captain James S. Holmes, Adjutant General of the Department of the East. He recently stated in an interview:

"It is more than right for the soldier to keep up his war risk insurance. The proposition which the Government is about to make him is so much more liberal than any proposition that he can hope to obtain from commercial companies that the investment must be considered an unusual one.

"The Government terms will be 25 per cent cheaper than the terms of the insurance companies. This is because the Government insurance is non-participating—no dividends have to be paid out of the premiums.

"So far \$38,000,000,000 in Government insurance has been written. We, alone, in the last year, have handled \$1,400,000,000 in war risk insurance. That is more than the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, the New York Life Insurance Company and the Equitable Life Assurance Society handled together.

"The great point is that the Government can give this insurance at exactly what it costs, on the basis of the mortality table. It has no high fees or high salaries, or big overhead charges, or 'load,' to carry.

"The Government's entrance into the insurance business has not interfered with the insurance companies. It has conducted the biggest insurance educational campaign in the history of the world, and the insurance companies are more than delighted. The big point is that only soldiers can take out this insurance and that a discharged soldier who once gives the insurance up cannot get it back. Ordinary citizens cannot take out one of these policies. The holders will never again have the chance to procure such an investment as this, unless we happen to have another big war.

"We are now writing between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000 worth of war risk insurance daily. The maximum policy is for \$10,000. In the case of total disability, the holder of the \$10,000 policy receives \$57.50 a month for twenty years, which amounts to \$13,800. In case of death this monthly payment goes to the beneficiary of the policy-holder."

### Before You Go Home

Before you leave the service and return to civil life, your Government wishes to tell you directly and simply a few things which it is most important for you to know.

You have answered your country's call and done the bidding of your Government. The Nation and the people are



grateful for what you have done. Your Government, therefore, gives you the right to keep up your insurance with the United States Government after you leave the service. More than that, you can keep it up for the rest of your life.

Because of your service in the war, you can have permanently for yourself and your family the protection of United States Government Insurance—the strongest, safest and most liberal insurance in the world—Government Insurance at Government rates. You can have this, but only if you hold on to your present insurance.

You can keep up your present insurance at substantially the same low rate you are paying now—for five years after the end of the war; and during this time, if you pay your premiums regularly, you can change this present insurance into a standard form of Government Insurance good for the rest of your life.

You can keep up your present insurance and change it without medical examination.

The new Government policies are now being prepared for you—ordinary life insurance, twenty-payment life, endowment maturing at age of 62, and other usual forms of insurance.

You will be notified when these new policies are ready. They will be written by the United States Government—Government Insurance at special Government rates for soldiers, sailors and marines. Meantime, all you need to do is keep up your present insurance. After you leave the service, send your check or money order to pay for your premium every month to the Disbursing Clerk, Bureau of War Risk Insurance, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., making same payable to the Treasurer of the United States. Give your first, middle and last name, your full address, your Army serial number, and the number of your insurance certificate, if it is known to you.

Remember, Uncle Sam is staying in the insurance business for you—because of what you did for him.

## "Port of Missing Men" Will Find Your Soldier

(New York Tribune, Washington Bureau)

Washington, February 10.—If you have a relative in the military service who has not written to you or whose whereabouts is unknown, write a letter to "The Port of Missing Men," surgeon general's office, Washington, D. C., or the hospital newspaper published nearest your home, the War Department advised to-day.

"The Port of Missing Men" is the title of a column printed in the hospital newspapers published at all army hospitals to assist relatives to locate men reported missing in action or those whose whereabouts is unknown.

# The Mechanism of the Y. M. C. A.

By the Interviewer

In presenting to readers of THE MESS-KIT the strangely interesting facts that deal with the detail of the organization as a whole, I think it better to offer, first of all, a summary of the work of the Y. M. C. A. in this number, taking up and meeting the overseas controversy regarding the work of the Association in France at once, and telling the story of the civil administration of this second largest of the world's corporations in succeeding numbers of THE MESS-KIT. It

to the front near Verdun. We stayed through until the next day and saw the start of the last barrage." She refused to talk of her soldier husband, except to say that he was with the army of occupation and that he still walks with a slight limp. She was "tremendously proud of him," of course, but insisted that he had "done nothing more than thousands of other Americans."

Dr. John R. Mott, chief executive of the War Work Council, is International Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., and in the course of a talk upon "The War Work Program" before 3,500 members and guests of the League for Political Education in Carnegie Hall, on January 9, he asked whether anyone had heard criticism of the operation of the following features of the overseas program, to wit:

Operation of 1,500 units.

Purchase last winter of coal at \$60 to \$70 a ton to keep troop billets warm.

Dispatch of hundreds of athletic directors and expenditure of \$2,000,000 for sport's equipment.

Maintenance of 100 theatrical troupes.

Display of 4,000,000 feet of film to a nightly attendance of 300,000 men.

Great sums used to provide musical talent.

Free distribution of 10,000,000 sheets of stationery and envelopes weekly.

Maintenance of extensive lecture tours.

Educational courses to keep men bright, with expenditure of \$2,000,000 for free text-books.

Dispatch of leading preachers of the country to safeguard morals.

Control of leave resorts at special command of General Pershing.

Sending of more than 250,000 remittances, totaling \$13,000,000 from soldiers to relatives here.

An Association man, until lately the only worker, on every transport.

Dr. Mott also declared that the signing of the armistice had disarranged the plans of all organizations working overseas, adding that at a recent meeting of the War Work Council a new budget was drawn up to meet the new conditions. This budget will be placed before the War and Navy Departments for their approval. Much additional light is expected when George W. Perkins and Mortimer L. Schiff, members of the Finance Committee now in France, make their reports.

"Our fresh study of the needs and opportunities for serving American soldiers, sailors and marines and those of our allies," he said, "make it perfectly clear that we would not have sufficient money to



Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.

is a story of surprises. Beginning, therefore, with "The Little Play Lady Y," as our doughboys affectionately named her, let me say that Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., is so small and dainty that she ought to wear a Bo-Peep bonnet and carry a crooked staff. She looks like a China shepherdess. But she was a worker, with administrative power. She never questioned her instructions; she took her place, naturally in the group of workers, never expected favors, never tried to dodge unpleasant tasks, and never once, to my knowledge, did she play up the name of Roosevelt. When I asked her if she had seen any fighting, or been at the front, she said: "Only once. On that famous night of November 10, Mr. Carter, executive secretary for all England and France, took his secretary and me up



meet the situation as the American homes and the American soldiers and sailors would like to have it met. In all these matters the magnitude of the work of the Association for the enlisted men should be borne in mind. We are operating more than 1,500 huts and other centres for the American Expeditionary Force in France. We also have more than 300 similar centres in Great Britain, Italy and Russia for the American troops. In addition to this, we are running more than 1,000 huts for the French army, as well as nearly 1,000 buildings in American camps in this country. We have a staff of nearly 10,000 workers, and it should be remembered by all that the Association is doing the gigantic task of ministering to all sides of the lives of about 4,000,000 uniformed men. Thus working for our soldiers and sailors, we are in more than seven times as many places as all the other agencies combined and employ possibly ten times as many workers. Considering all this, it is not surprising that here and there mistakes have been made and that incompetence and breakdowns have slipped into our personnel."

In closing his speech, Dr. Mott said,

"We do not expect to escape criticism. One day, when we had not been getting our supplies rapidly enough and there had developed a great deal of dissatisfaction in consequence, our Chief Secretary in France went to General Pershing. 'We have had much criticism, General,' the Secretary said. 'The Y. M. C. A. is not in France to avoid criticism,' answered the General, 'but to render as much service as possible to the men under the limitations under which we are all working in this war.'

"To my mind," concluded Dr. Mott, "that sentence puts the whole business in a nutshell. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to mention an organization or to name a Department of our own Government or of any other Government which has not during the war and during the post-war period shown its shortcomings, weaknesses, and grounds for complaint."

And now let us briefly hear the announcement by William J. Sloan, chairman of the War Work Council, regarding the operating of canteens overseas by the Association. The chairman states that canteen supplies to the value of \$1,400,000 have been distributed free to sol-

diers. The loss on the operation of the post exchanges overseas, exclusive of soldiers' stores in Great Britain, amounted to \$332,181, not including the post exchange deficit for November and December. The total value of supplies distributed free up to October 31 was \$532,110. The November estimate is \$183,486. December estimate \$700,000, which includes \$600,000 in Christmas gifts to every fighting man overseas in a package containing two packages of cigarettes, a can of tobacco, a package of gum, five Christmas cards, and a bag of candy. Transportation difficulties delayed, but did not prevent, in his belief, the achievement of this program. These are facts that redound to the credit of the Association. Among those of us who know the great work that was done by the Red Triangle abroad and at home, there never was a doubt of the sterling nature of the service given so ungrudgingly. The Association was not called upon to defend itself to us who knew the facts. These things are written for those who do not know the facts. The facts speak.

(To be continued)

# Nurses' Department

## The Nursing Staff of Camp Merritt Base Hospital

By Mina K. Strickland, A. N. C., Base Hospital Nursing Staff



The Berry House: Nurses' Quarters

**Nurses' Quarters.** With the exception of the head nurses, practically the entire nursing staff at Camp Merritt Base Hospital has been made up of unit nurses arriving here for training in Army work prior to their departure for overseas service. Lillian J. Ryan, Chief of the Nursing Staff, arrived from Washington, D. C., with the assistant-chief nurse, Eva Sedler, on January 6, 1918, a day before the Nurses' Quarters on Chestnut Street were ready to receive them. They moved to their own quarters on January 7. Nurses arriving on that day were entertained in Englewood, N. J., but by the date of opening of the Base Hospital, January 9, they had all made themselves at home in the Chestnut Street quarters. Accommodations were of the crudest. For five days, while their own dining-room was being prepared, the nurses' mess was supplied from the enlisted men's mess. After that, the nurses set their own mess table in their own quarters, with food before them, prepared in their own kitchen, but lacking knives and forks to eat with. One carving knife, "about a yard long," as the



Chief Nurse recalls it, was handed down the line from one nurse to another for the purpose of spreading butter on bread. In the bedrooms were beds and dressers, but no chairs. Before the end of January, 48 nurses were domiciled at the Nurses' Quarters on Chestnut Street.

*The Berry House.* On February 10, 1918, additional nurses and night nurses made it imperative that the building now used as the Base Hospital Post Exchange be turned over to the nursing staff and fitted up for their use, but this again proved quite inadequate, and on March 31, the nursing staff then numbering 77, the Berry House south of Maple Avenue was added to the list of Nurses' Quarters. The addition of 11 cots to the Post Exchange quarters enabled the Chief Nurse to take care of the 15 members of California Unit No. 47, arriving at Camp Merritt Base Hospital on their way to France, and immediately a large new addition to the Berry House was begun, and completed by May 3, 1918, adding 87 rooms for nurses and



*The Zabriski House: Nurses' Quarters*

9 rooms for servants to the existing accommodations.

*The Recreation House.* In August the Red Cross presented to the Base Hospital a fine new Recreation House, built and equipped at a cost approximating \$10,000.00. The Recreation House contains all the comforts and many of the refinements of life, including library, reception-room suitable for a dance, modern kitchen conveniences for refreshments, etc. The Recreation House was used to great advantage during the epidemic of influenza in September and October, 1918. On September 22, the day when the influenza epidemic became serious at the Base Hospital, a call was sent out for more nurses immediately, and they began to arrive promptly from the different Replacement Units then mobilizing in New York City. Afterwards they were returned to their respective units in New York. Their services, loyally and courageously rendered, were greatly needed at the Base Hospital during the epidemic. At one time, in that bad six weeks, 87 nurses were sick, which made it necessary to take over Ward 47 to give them proper care. There were three deaths among the nurses. In order to accommodate the extra number, 34 cots were placed in the Nurses' Red Cross Recreation House, and 100 cots in the Red Cross Convalescent House.

*Night Nurses* The re-arranging and disposals, however, were not yet at an end, because of the constantly shifting character of the work, and Ward 22 was taken over for sleeping quarters for the night nurses, when the Post Exchange building was requisitioned by the Mess Officer for its intended use as a Post Exchange for







the enlisted personnel of the Base Hospital. With the completion of the addition to the Berry House, Ward 22 was no longer required as sleeping quarters for the night nurses, and they were distributed between the Berry House and the old quarters on Chestnut Street.

*The Zabriski House.* On November 1, 1918, the Zabriski House, a large and handsome private residence, east of Knickerbocker Road, south of Maple Avenue, was taken over by the Government as additional Nurses' Quarters, and served to relieve the congestion in the dining-room at the Berry House. In charge of Miss Doherty, the Zabriski House takes care of 38 nurses quite satisfactorily, and no further ad-



ditions to the Nurses' Quarters are likely to be required.

*Increasing Personnel.* Throughout the month of October each day brought new permanent nurses to the Base Hospital, the increased accommodations for patients requiring a permanent increase in the nursing staff. On October 20, Ward 37-A was equipped as sleeping quarters for them, and was occupied for that purpose until November 30. In the meantime there was much transferring of the nursing personnel, with the additions exceeding the transfers in numbers, so that the nursing staff which on October 1, 1918, numbered 137, had grown by the end of the month to 300, comprising the Chief Nurse, one Assistant, one Sanitary Supervisor, two Night Supervisors, one Office Assistant, two Housekeepers, two Stenographers, two Hospital Assistants, fifty-two Head Nurses and two hundred and thirty-six Nurses, not including five Dietitians and five Technicians.



*A Devoted and Efficient Service.*

In the capable hands of Lillian J. Ryan, Chief Nurse from the opening of the Base Hospital to the present time, the Nursing Staff of this Base Hospital has developed an *esprit de corps* productive of the most efficient and devoted work second to none in obtaining results of the highest value.

*Nurses' Notes.* On Friday, February 7th, the dance given by the Nurses of the Base Hospital at the Recreation House was attended by about three hundred. A Jazz Band from Base Hospital Quartermaster Corps furnished the music. The affair was a great success. The Recreation House was decorated with the national emblem and flags of the Allies in profusion. Previous to the dancing Miss Lillian S. Ryan, Chief Nurse, entertained a few guests at dinner. Among those present were, Miss Howard, Chief Nurse in the Surgeon's Office, Hoboken;

(Continued on page 32)



# French For Soldiers

A Course of Instruction in Speaking, Writing and Reading the French Language.

Written for THE MESS-KIT, Divided into 10 Easy Lessons.

*By the Editor*

## Introduction.

There is just one right way to acquire a working knowledge of French, namely, to absorb it without effort, as a child absorbs the knowledge of the meaning of words, by the sound of the words uttered aloud and by constant repetition of the sound of the words. Starting from this base we have in full view the tremendous fact that all systems of instruction in foreign languages which call for sustained mental effort, constraining a reluctant attention and demanding concentration, are opposed to the way of the child, are not according to the natural plan, and are necessarily wrong. Excessive modesty need not operate here to deter us from stating bluntly that all modern systems of teaching languages are essentially wrong in method. That is no affair of ours. As "Bunker Bean" has wittily put it, "I can imagine nothing of less consequence." We propose to teach the enlisted man, who is, perhaps, the toughest kind of a student-proposition to be found on the earth's surface,—we propose to teach him, in 10 Easy Lessons, printed in THE MESS-KIT, at the rate of one lesson monthly, how to speak and write French. When we have done with him he will not know anything about Rules of Grammar or The Irregularity of French verbs, but he will be able to read and write French, and will be able to hold his own in a conversation in French. In order to achieve these results we intend to amuse him and interest him in the job. He will be interested first of all because he is amused; next because he will be "showing-off" before his girl; then because he will be "putting one over" on his pals, and lastly because his acquirement of French may prove of assistance to him in business. He will not exactly volunteer to learn French; neither will he be drafted into a knowledge of the language; he will be, let us say, "inducted." The first requisite, of course, is to find a source of interest having a universal and perpetual "punch" for all men everywhere; then to tack that source firmly to the Course of Instruction and serve both together. This is quite simple. We know that all men in the service or out of the service respond to the lure of the Feminine. We shall therefore make use of the sex-instinct in teaching the man to speak French easily. Really, that is all there is to this method of instruction. It is grandly simple. The results, however, will astonish. Singular, is it not, that no one ever thought of doing it before? Kindly remember, when

a dozen experts are founding schools and graduating Scholars all over the country, in their "Nature's Way" of teaching Foreign Languages, that this system was first given to the world in the pages of this cheerful little monthly magazine, THE MESS-KIT. To us be the praise: to them the profit!—Now let us begin.

## Lesson I.

You are Private Jones, willing to learn to speak French if the strain is not too great. You will read this Lesson over and over and over again between now and next month, when the next number of THE MESS-KIT will bring you Lesson II. You will practise speaking the words aloud. Don't whisper. SHOUT THE WORDS ALOUD. Get used to the noise you make. Are you ready? Right. Begin. Think of the nicest girl you know. Think of the girl who is a lot smarter than you are, who is a lot better than you are,—the kind of girl you want to admire you. You will know just what is meant if you think of the girl who influences you to go straight, keep sober, save money, be decent, and get on in the world. The right girl. You are speaking to this girl. You say to her in French, having just met her, "Comment allez-vous?", meaning "How do you do?", pronounced "Kom-mong tallay voo." French is a funny sort of talk. Literally the words mean, "How are you going?" or "How do you go?" You must get her to take this Course of Instruction with you. She will do that because it will help you. She will answer, "Merci, monsieur, je vais bien," meaning "Thanks, sir, I am well," pronounced, "Mairsee m'syer, jer vay beeang," and, literally, this dear child has just said to you, "Thanks, sir, I go well!" Which, of course, does not make sense. However, what the phrase really means is, "Quite well, thank you, sir." This is a sample of a French idiom. The French language is full of quaint idioms, and, for the matter of that, so is the English language. How often do you say, "Well, at all events, I shall do it tomorrow." What do you mean by "at all events?" You are using an idiom. So is the lady when she says "I go well." Naturally you want to make a hit with her right off the bat; you want to get action. You will now lean a little forward and lower your voice to say, with intense emphasis, "Je t'adore!", pronouncing it "Jer taddore." It means, "I adore you." Yes, it is a little abrupt, but she will not mind that. Before we go any further you may know

that the French have a much prettier way of making love than the Yank. When a Frenchman knows a girl well and wishes to know her very much better, he begins to use "thee" and "thou" when speaking to her, instead of "you." The effect is tender and intimate. That is why you say to her, "Je t'adore," "I adore thee," instead of "Je vous adore," "I adore you."

The chances are that she will laugh at your remark, but she will not laugh at what you said. She will laugh at the way you said it. You are sure to forget that you must speak softly and seriously. Instead of that you will grin self-consciously, and roar the words at her, because the sound of them is strange to your ears. That is one reason why you must get used to the sound of the words you learn. They must seem to you like old friends; nothing strange about them.

Now, when she laughs, that is your cue to lift your chin sharply and frown at her, saying, without any tenderness at all, "Qu'est-ce que c'est de vous?", pronouncing it "Kace ker say der voo." It means, "What is the matter with you?"; and may be shortened, if you like, to the phrase "Qu'est-ce que c'est?" or "What's the matter?" You have learned what "bien" means. Use it. Take that last phrase and add "bien" to it. Turn it into "Eh, bien, mademoiselle, qu'est-ce que c'est de vous, s'il vous plait?", pronouncing it "A beeang mamzell kace ker say de voo see voo play," which means, in its literal interpretation, word by word, "Eh, well, miss, what is this which it is if it you pleases?", and which means when turned into the right English meaning, "Oh, well, young lady, and pray what's amusing you?"

That will hold her for a little. It is not well to allow even adorable damsels to laugh at you too much. A jolt does them good.

Let us conclude this first lesson with a little up-to-date French slang, which has become more than ever acceptable to the Parisienne since her acquaintance with the Doughboy at close quarters on French soil.

Here is a dialogue between a French damsel and a Doughboy:

He: "Je vous aime; et vous?" pronounced "Jer vooz aim a voo?", meaning "I love you, and you?"

She: "Tu me plais. Viens donc!", pronounced "Teu mer play. Veeang dawng!", meaning "You please me. Come then!"

He: "J'ai pas l'rond!", pronounced "Jay par lerong!", meaning "I haven't any cash."



She: "Hein! nib de poignon! Ca me fait rien!", pronounced "Ha! neeb der pwonyong! Sar mer fay reecang!", meaning "So! Not a nickel? That doesn't matter!"

He: "Pas! Que c'est bon! Quand?", pronounced "Par! Ker say bong! Karng?", meaning, "No? Isn't that fine! When?"

She: "Ce soir!", pronounced "Ser swar!", meaning "Tonight!"

He: "Ou donc?", pronounced "Oo dawng?", meaning "Where then?"

She: "Chez-moi!", pronounced "Shay mwar!", meaning "At my home!"

He: "Comment?", pronounced, "Kom-mang?", meaning "How shall I come?"

She: "Par la fenetre!", pronounced "Par lar fenatr!", meaning "By the window!"

He: "Tu parles!", pronounced "Teu parl!", meaning "You bet!" or, "You said a mouthful!"

This is enough for your first lesson. See that you take pains to get the right pronunciation of the words. It is most important. Get the right French sound for the letter "J." When we write the sound of "Je" as "jer" we mean that you are to make the "J" sound soft like the Italian "Gu" in the familiar name "Guiseppi." You know how that sounds. The French "J" is sounded like that. You are not to sound the "r" at the end of "Jer," nor the "g" at the end of "Beeang." Pronounce the word without rattling the last letter. It is given you only to make the nearest possible equivalent in English sounds plain to you. Now get these phrases. All of them. Practise the sound of the words. Shout them aloud. Make a noise. See that you know all of Lesson I before you begin on Lesson II. It is easy, pleasant work, and you will much increase your market-value by doing it well. Also, you will make the rest of the bunch sore by jabbering French.

(To be continued)

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# The Red Cross at Camp Merritt Base Hospital

By the Recorder

*The Red Cross.* The social relations of the soldiers at Camp Merritt are well looked after by the Y. M. C. A., Knights of Columbus, Hostess Houses, Christian Science Reading Room, Jewish Welfare Board, etc., but the Red Cross concerns itself particularly with the interests of sick soldiers under treatment at the Base Hospital. This connection between the Red Cross and the Hospital began formally on February 1, 1918, when Col. Robert McLean was appointed by the Red Cross as Associate Field Director in charge of Hospital Service.

*The Red Cross House.* On March 26, 1918, a site was allotted by the Commanding Officer of the Base Hospital for the erection of the Red Cross House for Convalescent Patients. This house was completed and furnished by June 27, 1918, at a cost of \$24,000.00, and turned over to the C. O., Base Hospital, on that day, to be used for the benefit of patients, control to rest with the hospital authorities. The building was designed with four wings, as at other Camps, in the form of a Cross, the large central space forming an Assembly Room, equipped with comfortable chairs, rugs, tables, reading-matter, writing materials, piano, etc., and later embellished by an excellent library given by The American Library Association. One arm, or wing, pointing south, connected directly with the corridors along which the patients, under cover in wet weather, walked to the Red Cross House from the Convalescent Wards adjoining. One arm was filled by a stage and platform for concerts or vaudeville entertainments, with a dressing room on each side for the actors who gave their service once a week, coming from New York for the purpose of adding something to the pleasure of the sick men. A small canteen where candy and tobacco could be purchased stood just off the central space on the ground-floor, which was equipped also with lavatories on each wing of the building. The office of the House Director and of the Social Service Worker occupied the two remaining arms of the building. The upper story was divided into twelve bed-rooms, some of which were for the use of the house-staff and some were held unoccupied to be used later as emergency bed-rooms by relatives of soldiers sick in hospital.

*Sessions Twice Daily.* Beginning July 4, 1918, convalescent patients were invited to come twice daily to the Red Cross House, from 2

p. m. to 4.30 p. m. and in the evening from 6 p. m. to 8.30 p. m. The attendance at each session averaged 125 patients. A Social Service Nurse was appointed through the Washington Chapter for the supervision of things, and 15 volunteer workers were chosen from Red Cross Chapters near Camp Merritt to assist in entertaining.

*Social Service Work.* This Social Service Work falls naturally into two classes, the cases requiring small service and the "intensive" cases, requiring some protracted attention to accomplish results. As an example of what is meant by this division it may be explained that the Red Cross Work with patients includes visiting the Wards, communicating with families of patients, taking up domestic worries of individual soldiers through Home Service sections of the Red Cross, relieving distress, advising the patient, getting information for him about his allotments, mailing letters, packages, furnishing minor comforts, keeping bed-patients supplied with reading matter, arranging automobile rides for those able to go, and so forth.

*S. C. D. Cases.* A total of 163 cases of men who were waiting for their Discharge from the United States Army upon a Surgeon's Certificate of Disability, were investigated by the Red Cross, and the Home Service Section of the soldier's home town put in touch with the situation, that financial assistance might be given either for a change of occupation, or medical follow-up work, or surgical appliances, the object being to restore the patient to economic usefulness with the least delay possible.

*The Red Cross and the Epidemic.* When, in September and October, 1918, the epidemic of Spanish Influenza struck the Base Hospital, the Red Cross House was able to afford a measure of assistance to the hospital staff that will be long remembered as vital in its nature and timeliness in meeting the situation. The Red Cross House was at once closed to the patients and 100 extra nurses, who had been sent from New York to assist the Base Hospital through the epidemic, were made as comfortable as possible in cot-beds, the ground-floor being turned over to them as sleeping-quarters. The kitchen was opened for the nurses, and bread, tea, etc., provided for



them to eat while off duty. Automobiles came for them from Englewood every day to give them a change of air and scene between their long hours of service. Many nurses were stricken while attending to their duties.

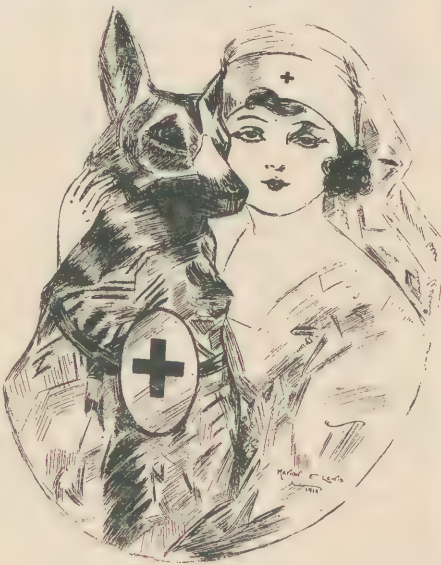
**Comforting Relatives.** In the meantime the office was being thronged daily by the mothers, sisters, fathers, and brothers of the men who were sick in the hospital. A Bureau of Communication was established at the Red Cross House to issue passes to these relatives and to see that they were housed during their stay in Camp. The C. O., Base Hospital, did not think it best to house them outside the Camp, and the Y. W. C. A. Hostess House took care of relatives sent to it by the Red Cross through the epidemic, averaging about 60 a night. The relatives of 259 sick men passed through the Red Cross House office, each of whom needed and received some act of social service, such as finding lodging, providing extra warm clothing for those who had come up from the South, comforting them in case of death. In 60 cases of death the relatives were cared for by the Red Cross, and many were given financial aid, sometimes being escorted to the station in New York, their tickets bought for them, and they comforted a little on their sad journey home.

A woman from Missouri arrived with a fifteen months old baby a few hours after her husband, a private in the Infantry, had died in the hospital. The news was broken to her as gently as possible, but it was too tragic, and she collapsed. She and the baby were cared for until she could be trusted to return home safely. Some time later a letter was received from her asking for a few words descriptive of her husband's last day in the hospital. The Red Cross traced up the nurse who had him in charge in her WaFd, interviewed her, and sent back to the widow a comforting report. This is but one instance out of very many of services rendered out of a full heart and generous hand by the Social Service Department of the Red Cross.

**Gifts and Donations.** The Red Cross has been able to secure certain wished-for equipment for the Base Hospital, at one time a Ford Truck, at another an X-Ray reducing camera, with numerous small articles of general usefulness, furnishing supplies of jellies, jams, fruit, etc., to the Diet Kitchen, 130 cots, mattresses and pillows, during the epidemic, 200 army blankets and sheets for the use of the nurses quartered at the Red Cross House, and 250 cots and mattresses, with 1,500 pairs of heavy wool socks, masks, etc., for the use of the Base Hospital.

**Acknowledgments.** Recognizing the importance of the work done by the Red Cross on behalf of the sick soldiers at Camp Merritt Base Hospital the Commanding Officer has been willing at all times to assist the endeavors of the Red Cross Chapter to the utmost, and is glad of the opportunity to make acknowledgment of a labor that seems to him beyond price.

## "The Red Cross Girl"



Drawn for THE MESS-KIT by Miss Marion Lewis, Englewood, N. J. Miss Lewis was formerly Night Supervisor of the Telephone Exchange at Camp Merritt, N. J., now transferred to Washington, D. C., as Night Supervisor of the Franklin Telephone Exchange. This is the first of a series of drawings by Miss Lewis, one of which will appear each month in THE MESS-KIT. No. 2 of the series will be "The Spring Girl," an original full-length study.

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# Sports

## Base Hospital Basketball

*By Sergeant Charles E. Bebo*



1st Lieut. A. G. Heilman, M.C., U. S. A.

### Base Hospital Athletic Officer Manager Base Hospital Basketball Team

Lieutenant Heilman has always been an ardent supporter of athletics. He began his athletic career in Prep. School, maintaining a keen interest during his academic and medical courses which were completed at Franklin and Marshall College and University of Pennsylvania respectively. After graduation he was selected to direct the football, basketball and track teams at the University of Montana, where he developed some championship material. While at the Medical Officers' Training Camp, Camp Greenleaf, Chickamauga Park, Georgia, he was appointed Physical Director under the direction of Major McConoughy. Last fall Lieutenant Heilman represented the Base Hospital on the Camp Merritt football team, acting in the capacity of advisory coach and player. On the departure of Lieutenant Tucker, Lieutenant Heilman was appointed Athletic Officer of this Command and Base Hospital athletics owes much to his enthusiasm and skill of direction.

By the signing of the armistice the world's greatest tragedy came to a close and our attention was again turned to friendly sport. Through the energies of Mr. Paul Pilgrim, of the New York Athletic Club, always active in promoting the physical welfare of the men in the United States Army, athletics was greatly stimulated at all camps throughout the country. A Basketball League was organized for members of the permanent organization at Camp Merritt, N. J., a matter of great interest to the Base Hospital Detachment. Through the enthusiasm of Sergeant Christian T. Muhl, and other members of the Personnel office, it was decided that the Base Hospital should be represented in the League. Lieut. Heilman, Base Hospital Athletic Officer, issued a call for candidates, and the following

men submitted their names: Anderson, Katzman, Patten, Simonsma, Muhl, Proctor, Chappellear, Lutz, G. W. Thompson, Watson, Otstot, Bebo, Newcomb, Klein, Hazard, Grove, Paul, Reynolds, Greenwood, Allard, Spradlin, Flaherty, Pfloeger, Clement, Wheeler, Helmstadt, Schwing, Sunshine. The team, however, did not begin active work until about the middle of January, on account of the extra work thrown upon our men at this time in handling hundreds of overseas patients.

After a few days' practice the opening game of the league was played according to schedule, on January 20, between Base Hospital and Salvage Company, at K. of C. Hall, resulting in a victory for the Base Hospital by a score of 24 to 8.

The Base Hospital team has been slow in rounding into shape because of the



*A Base Hospital Basketball Group. Back row, from left to right: Pvt. 1/c Ostot, Corpl. Newcomb, Sgt. 1/c Muhl, Pvt. 1/c Paul. Second row: Pvt. 1/c Proctor, Sgt. Patton, Pvt. 1/c Watson, Cook Thatcher. Front row: Pvt. 1/c Lutz, Pvt. 1/c Kline, Corpl. Thompson*



fact that some of the best players cannot be relieved from duty to report for practice at the appointed hours; team work is lacking, in consequence, and, if the Base Hospital team is to do itself justice in the games scheduled as yet to be played, this feature of time allotted for practice work can scarcely be slighted.

During the absence of Lieutenant Heilman from the practice games, through his temporary sickness in hospital, Sergeant Charles E. Bebo had charge of the team and gave the men several good work-outs. He has been appointed to assist in the training from this date, February 12.

The Base Hospital proposes, under the advice of the manager, Lieutenant Heilman, to develop a first, second and third team. Games are being arranged for both first and second teams with teams from Hackensack, Paterson, Rutherford, Bogota, Newark, Passaic, Hollywood, Columbia, Princeton, and Yale Universities, as well as with the teams in New York and vicinity. It is contemplated that some of these games shall be played in the Englewood Armory, to be followed by dancing.

#### League Games Played

After a little practice by Base Hospital tossers the first league game was played against the Salvage Company, resulting in a win for Base Hospital by a score of 24 to 8. Both teams played good ball. Katzman and Simonsma led in the scoring by 7 and 3 baskets respectively. Patton played a fine defensive game. In the second half the whole second team of Base Hospital was sent in, Salvage using two substitutes. Line-up:

Base Hospital.	Pos.	Salvage Team.
Anderson	R. F.	Sick
Muhl	L. F.	Koch
Simonsma	C.	Redman
Patten	R. G.	Miland
Katzman	L. G.	Grapentine

Substitutes for second half—Base Hospital: Schwing, r.f.; Proctor, l.f.; Ostot, c.; Thompson, r.g.; Newcomb, l.g. Salvage team: Atkinson, l.f.; Goch, r.g.

The match was played at K. of C. Hall on January 20, as stated above.

The second league game created intense interest in camp. The crack team of the 13th Infantry was in the field. The Base Hospital guards met the onslaughts and repulsed them to the tune of a victory for Base Hospital of 32 to 17. This was considered a notable achievement for our fellows in view of the well-earned reputation for speed and endurance of the 13th Infantry team. The line-up was as follows:

Base Hospital.	Pos.	13th Infantry.
Anderson	R. F.	Hank
Proctor	L. F.	Stone
		(Chappelear)
Lutz	C.	Smith
		(Simonsma)

Katzman	R. G.	Doshinker
		(Thompson)
Patten	L. G.	Carey
		(Watson)

The game was fast throughout. One of the regulars of the 13th team was on the sick list, but his place was filled by the coach of the 13th, Lieut. Carey, who is by no means a second-rater. The game was played at Y. M. C. A. Hall on January 30.

The third league game against the Q. M. C. was marred by the fact that the Quartermasters were unable to use their right personnel, their team being composed of substitutes. The match resulted in a win for Base Hospital by 42 to 31. For the Hospital, Proctor and Muhl, forwards; Lutz, center; Katzman and Sunshine, guards. Played at K. of C. Hall, February 4.

The fourth league game was to have been played on February 11 against the Casual Company's team. Base Hospital won this game by default.

#### Official League Standing at Date of Writing, February 12, 1919

	Won.	Lost.	P.C.
Base Hospital	4	0	.1000
Motor Truck	3	1	.750
Headquarters Co.	2	1	.667
13th Infantry	2	1	.500
Salvage Company	2	2	.500

Quartermaster Corps	1	2	.333
Cooks and Bakers	1	3	.250
Casual Battalion	0	5	.000

#### Games Outside the League

Base Hospital team played the Ridgefield Park five about the end of January, winning by a score of 50 to 23. Substitutes were used through nearly half of the game. Sunshine made his first appearance with Base Hospital players in this game, and his work stamps him as likely to prove a valuable asset to the home team. Lutz and Chappelear piled up many points for Base Hospital.

#### First Defeat

On February 5, Base Hospital team journeyed to Dover, N. J., where it met its first defeat at the hands of Dover Arsenal by a score of 19 to 17. The Dover men are still undefeated after playing many of the best teams in Jersey. Proctor and Katzman for the Hospital had hard luck with their baskets. The remainder of the men played gilt-edged ball. Sunshine scored with some clean hits from the floor. This team will be given a return game, to be played in the Englewood Armory, in all probability followed by a dance. Base Hospital was represented by Katzman and Patton, guards; Lutz, center; Sunshine and Proctor, forwards, with Watson substitute.

#### Camp Basketball League Schedule

Date.	Time.	Teams.	Place.
Feb. 13.	6:30 p. m.	Motor Truck vs. Cooks and Bakers	K. of C.
Feb. 14.	8:30 p. m.	Headquarters vs. Q. M. C.	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 17.	2:30 p. m.	Base Hospital vs. Cooks and Bakers	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 17.	8:30 p. m.	13th Inf. vs. Headquarters	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 18.	6:30 p. m.	Q. M. C. vs. Cooks and Bakers	K. of C.
Feb. 19.	2:30 p. m.	Headquarters vs. Salvage	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 19.	8:30 p. m.	Base Hospital vs. Motor Truck	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 20.	6:30 p. m.	Q. M. C. vs. 13th Inf.	K. of C.
Feb. 20.	2:30 p. m.	Cooks and Bakers vs. Headquarters	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 21.	8:30 p. m.	Base Hospital vs. Headquarters	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 24.	2:30 p. m.	Cooks and Bakers vs. Salvage	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 24.	8:30 p. m.	Q. M. C. vs. Base Hospital	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 25.	6:30 p. m.	13th Inf. vs. Salvage	K. of C.
Feb. 26.	8:30 p. m.	Headquarters vs. Motor Truck	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 27.	2:30 p. m.	Base Hospital vs. 13th Inf.	Y.M.C.A.
Feb. 27.	6:30 p. m.	Q. M. C. vs. Salvage	K. of C.
Feb. 28.	8:30 p. m.	Salvage vs. Motor Truck	Y.M.C.A.
Mar. 3.	8:30 p. m.	Q. M. C. vs. Motor Truck	Y.M.C.A.
Mar. 4.	6:30 p. m.	Motor Truck vs. 13th Inf.	K. of C.
Mar. 5.	8:30 p. m.	Headquarters vs. Q. M. C.	Y.M.C.A.
Mar. 6.	2:30 p. m.	13th Inf. vs. Headquarters	Y.M.C.A.
Mar. 6.	6:30 p. m.	Cooks and Bakers vs. Motor Truck	K. of C.
Mar. 7.	8:30 p. m.	Base Hospital vs. Salvage	Y.M.C.A.

## HORTON'S ICE CREAM

*"Those who fought for Uncle Sam—Know it's free from fault and sham!"*



# Serving Producer and Consumer

## *The Livestock Producer Wants*

- The highest prices his cattle will bring.
- An assured market 12 months in the year.
- Selling outlets that cover the entire world.

## *The Meat Consumer Wants*

- Meat at the lowest prices it can be bought.
- A stabilized supply, winter and summer alike.
- Distribution that brings the meat fresh, sweet and in prime condition.

These things Armour and Company are able to provide, because the Armour organization has kept pace with international needs.

When Armour began turning waste parts into saleable by-products the farmer profited because it became possible to pay him on a basis for the *whole animal*, instead of for just the meat, hide and tallow. And as by-products provide for a large part of the production cost, the consumer pays less for his meat.

When Armour and Company started building refrigerator cars on a large scale, fresh beef, pork and mutton became at once available at all seasons and in all consuming centers. And with Armour branch houses to hold enough to make them independent of railroad uncertainties, and to distribute according to retailers' requirements, stock-growers have the encouragement of sure markets and consumers are assured a steady always-dependable supply.

There is nothing to prevent any packing concerns from building and operating their own refrigerator cars.


Nor are they barred from conducting their own branch distributing houses.

The big point is that Armour and Company, realizing that a national business could not be conducted except on a national scale, *have* built these cars and provided necessary marketing facilities. The system is the outgrowth of necessity, and to render the service which is expected of it, must operate as a whole. It cannot be efficient piece-meal, or under scattered management. The very nature of the business is against that.

Time, and the utmost in co-ordination and efficiency, are first essentials in the successful handling of food-products. There can be only one way to realize the greatest efficiency under such circumstances, and that is to do it as Armour and Company are doing it—with preparation and shipping facilities under one comprehensive management.

**ARMOUR & COMPANY**  
CHICAGO





# AT EASE

(This is the Question and Answer Department of THE MESS-KIT, where the enlisted or discharged man will discuss his business connected with his work as subscription-agent for THE MESS-KIT; where he will make his complaints and state his grievances, if he has any grievances, and he probably has many. Discussion may do good by making clear the nature of those grievances. Changes may follow. Improvements may be made in matters that are here made known for the first time. This Department is the Meeting-Place, or Forum, where we talk things over. Correspondents will bear in mind that liberty does not mean license. We expect you to state your case simply and talk to the point. Give us facts and the evidence behind the facts to prove your statements. If, in our judgment, the publication of the facts will result in good to the status of the soldier, the facts will be published. Washington is anxious to help the enlisted man. The attitude of the Administration at Washington is also the attitude of the Surgeon General's office at Washington, of the Surgeon's office at Port of Embarkation, and of the Commanding Officer of this and every Base Hospital. Understand that. Get it clear. Grievances grow to manias by suppression. Let us talk. In this Department also will be carried from time to time such good or evil things as our friends and enemies may speak or write concerning THE MESS-KIT. Here, too, will be presented such laughter-moving cartoons and sketches as belong to the daily life of the soldier. In a word, this is the Barracks Department of THE MESS-KIT, where we meet informally, "at ease.")

## Wants Immediate Discharge

To THE MESS-KIT, Base Hospital, Camp Merritt, N. J.

February 4, 1919.

What is the reason that my discharge from the army is held up? I put in my application all right, with affidavits attached, showing that my work was valuable to my employer, and that he had my old job waiting for me to step into. Why don't they let me out? The war's over; I have done my bit. Now I want to go home. I dare you to tell the truth in your magazine about things in the Army. You told me to write my grievance and send it in. Here it is; but you won't print it. They won't let you. Don't sign my name to this, if you do print it. You understand. But I know right well you don't dare put anything like this in your paper.

Pvt. ———,  
Med. Dept.

*Ans.*—Here's your letter, and I'm going to take some trouble to make things clear to you, because your "kick" is the "kick" of a million men. It is representative, and important because it is the voice of an immense number of individuals. You are a young man; not yet 25 years old. Your life will be what you make it. You will be a success or a failure in life according to what brains you have and how you use them. It may be that your brains are all right, but it is sure that they are rusty. You are not using them. You have not used them all the long while you have been nursing your grievance that they would not let you out of the Army in order that you might go home and make more money and have a better time than you are having here. Your name is Legion. Think a moment. That's what your brains are for. Let us begin at the beginning. The United States organized a force of three or four million men, equipped them and trained them to do a new kind of work in a shorter time than any other nation has required for a similar job. Half of this force was sent overseas, and half remained here to attend to detail. You were one of those who stayed to attend to detail. It had to



Beating it for Home in His Mind. As Pvt. George M. Culver Pictured it for The Mess-Kit



# STYLEPLUS CLOTHES

*To the boys going back to  
civilian life!*

You will need new clothes almost the first thing.

If you wore Styleplus before you entered the service—and thousands of the boys did—we know it will not take you long to find your Styleplus store.

If you were not a Styleplus wearer perhaps these facts will convince you:

- We concentrate our volume which enables us to manufacture at low cost.
- We attach a sleeve ticket on every Styleplus garment at our factory which plainly marks the price.
- Styleplus Clothes have *earned* the reputation of always being exceptional in value and in style.
- Styleplus are for the men who want a reliable quality—and real style—in the medium price range.

So when Uncle Sam gives you his *Well-done!* and *Good-bye!* visit your local Styleplus store and buy a suit. Styleplus Clothes appeal to soldiers. "They make good."

Sold by one leading clothing merchant in most cities and towns. Write for Styleplus booklet and name of local dealer.

**HENRY SONNEBORN & CO., Inc.**

*Founded 1849*

**BALTIMORE, MD.**

***Styleplus Clothes, \$25—\$30—\$35***

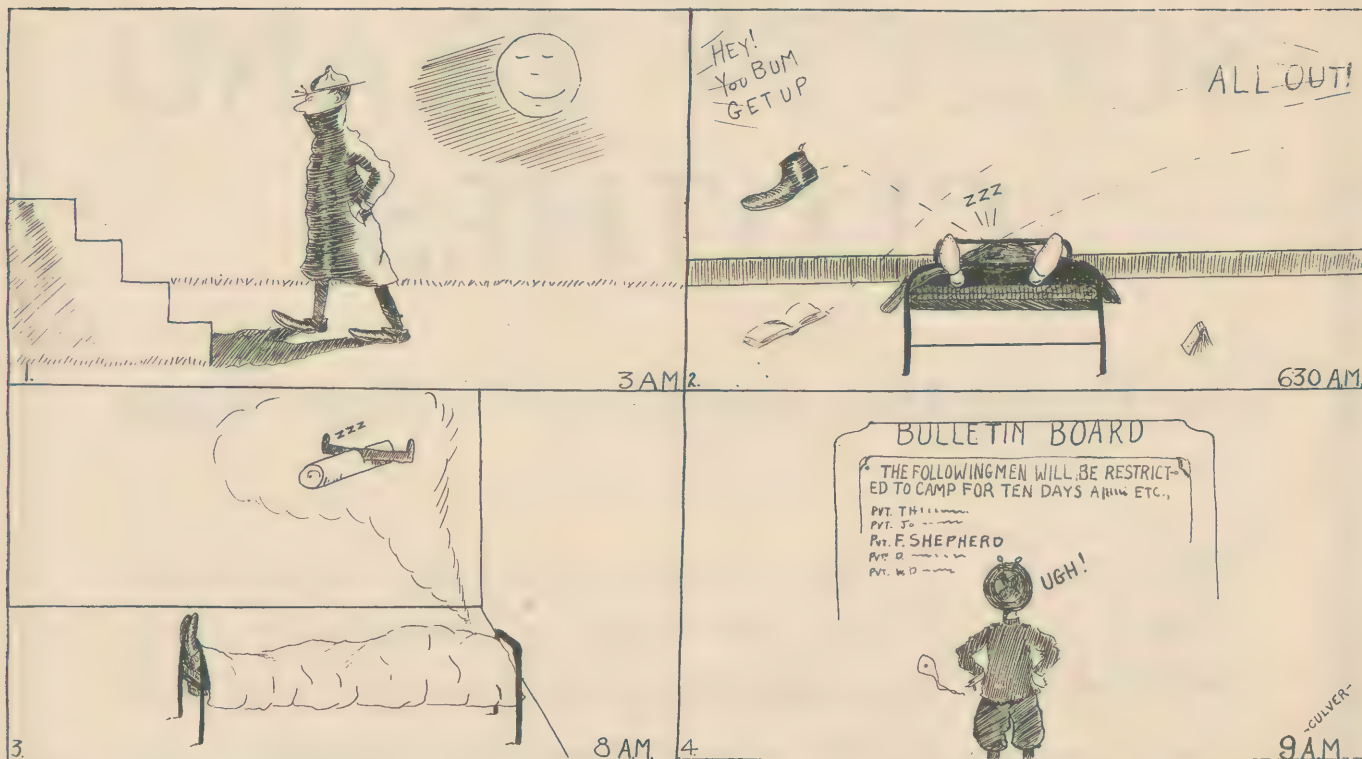
"EACH GRADE ONE PRICE THE NATION OVER"

**AMERICA'S ONLY KNOWN-PRICED CLOTHES**



# "SHEP, THE SHAME OF BARRACKS VI!"

## No. 1. "RESTRICTED!"



(This is No. 1 of a Series of Cartoons of Barrack-life Dealing With the Experiences of Pvt. Foster Shepherd, Base Hospital Med. Dept., Drawn for The Mess-Kit by Pvt. George M. Culver)

be attended to by somebody, or the whole job would have fallen into confusion. Your work was valuable, even if you only swept a corridor for six months. It was valuable because somebody else would have had to sweep that corridor if you had not been on the spot to do it. The big job, thanks to you and a million others like you, who attended to the detail here,—the big job overseas, was put through. Then began the reverse business of demobilizing that vast army which had been so rapidly thrown together. The problem was to send home to their families as many men as possible who could be spared from the detail work, in the shortest time possible. This demobilizing has been handled to date with just twice the speed with which Great Britain has been able to tackle her demobilizing problem. The first point clear in handling the job here was that men whose wives, families, mothers, were suffering because of the absence of the bread-winner of the home must be the first men let out of the Army. You see why. I don't need to beat this into your head. You see why. All wars, in all lands, from the beginning of history, have recorded the sacrifices made, and the hardships borne, by those dependent relatives of the men in Service. The United States did a lot for those dependents in the way of providing for them by allotment of a portion of pay and a bonus direct. The best possible provision was made to meet the situation in advance. The carrying out of the detail was a tremendous labor, and mistakes were made, and delays occurred. Unavoidable, because the detail was necessarily in the hands of men as new to their job as you to yours with the broom. Smoothness and accuracy and speed come with time. This was new. Efficiency is practice. These new men had to learn their job.

They did as well as could be expected. It was, and still is, a gigantic job. It is still on at high speed. It still lacks something of accuracy. But, mark me, if the detail men who are handling this demobilization job nursed a grievance as you are nursing yours,—the same grievance, you understand,—the same anxiety to drop the broom and get back home, the work would first congest and then stop. The machine would come to a halt. When it started going again, the errors and confusion would be terrible. All this mess and trouble resulting from one source. What? From the man with the grievance. From you, the detail man. From a million others who feel exactly as you feel. You are as sore as a wasp. You think you have reason to be sore. You have not. You are needed to finish the job. Without you the machine will not run. You are vital to the job because there are a million of you. Singly you are not important. Change your viewpoint. Forget the grouch. Look outside of your own likes and dislikes. If you can't do that you will never amount to anything. Unless you can "see" all the detail and plan of a big thing you will never be of any account in the game of life. You make yourself all the time; from day to day you make yourself just what you are going to be. Make yourself a grouch and you grow into one. Suppose you begin right now to look at this thing from a different angle. Suppose you start by saying, "I'm a part of the big job. If I don't stick, when I'm needed, why should anyone stick? It's up to me to keep my head shut and attend to my job. I shall get out of the Army quicker that way because the faster and smoother the job runs the sooner they will get through and let me go home." Suppose you begin now to look a little

further ahead than your immediate wishes and desires. Suppose you begin really to THINK. To think on new lines. The grievance lines are worn smooth by use. Rest the grievance. It will help to develop your brains to try a new line of thought. It will be good for you. You may amount to something later. Begin now, and write THE MESS-KIT how you get along. Your name is Legion. But, if you were able to think straight you would be able to "see straight," and you would not have any grievance at all, because you would understand. Begin thinking. When you get used to thinking, it will become a habit. It is a good habit. It distinguishes the man from the beast. It will be a little hard at first because of the novelty of it. But, as time passes, it will become easier. Don't fail to read THE MESS-KIT every month. It will help you to think.—EDITOR.

### Promotion and Easy Times For Officers

Editor of THE MESS-KIT, Base Hospital, Camp Merritt, N. J.

January 28, 1919.

Some of the best men in this command are only privates today, and men who can't hold a candle to them are made non-coms. Do you call that fair? What line is your magazine going to take about that sort of thing? The Army is rotten with injustice and petty jealousies. The officers run things to suit themselves. Please do not publish my name if you guess who is writing this. I sign myself,

Pvt. A. B. C.,  
Med. D.

Ans.—Don't worry about your name. Names are sacred. Anonymous letters, however, will receive no attention in THE



# SOCIETY BRAND CLOTHES

*For Young Men and Men Who Stay Young*

*“Back to  
Peace  
Clothes”*

IN this moment of laying aside the uniform there surges through the heart of the soldier emotions too deep for words. There are sorrows for departed comrades. There are memories of privation and danger. There are joys of the homecoming. There are hopes for the days ahead.

But no regret, however heavy—no ecstasy, however light—can weigh against the sweet thanksgiving of the mother's heart and the veneration of the nation for him and for her.

A beautiful reproduction  
in colors of the original  
oil painting, suitable for  
framing can be had from  
our dealer in your town.

The label identifies every Society Brand garment.  
It is the maker's guarantee of unqualified satisfaction.

**ALFRED DECKER & COHN, Makers**

**In Canada, SOCIETY BRAND CLOTHES, Limited**

CHICAGO

NEW YORK

MONTREAL



MESS-KIT. We must know who our correspondents are always. But the names will not be printed unless the writers wish to be known and tell us that their names may be used. No one will see these names in our office. Nor do we talk about such things. It is easy to guess who Private A. B. C. is, and his letter is answered here, (although an anonymous letter) because it voices a very general opinion, and is therefore of general interest. If Pvt. A. B. C. knew anything at all about the business-world he would know that jealousy, injustice, envy, favoritism, etc., are much more common, much more evident, there than in the Army and Navy of the United States. If he knew anything of conditions in the British or French or Italian or Belgian armies he would know that they are exactly as common with them as with us. If, looking close at home, he knew anything of politics, the Police Department, or actual working conditions of any great organization of men and women, he would know that the United States Army is more free from blemish in this respect than any civil organization. The Army, being composed of human beings, is necessarily human. The blemishes noted must exist in all human endeavor. This answers your general charge, and if you knew conditions you would know that the answer is true. You make two special charges. First, that the wrong men are promoted; second, that the officers run the Army to suit themselves. Let us take them in turn. It is wisely held by commanding officers that no one knows the good and bad points of the private as well as the man who is next in rank to the private, namely, the non-com. Therefore, the private is promoted chiefly because of the recommendation of his sergeant. It is true that a non-com. may dislike a certain private and refuse to recommend him for promotion. That happens. But, in general, apart from the few individual cases of merit neglected and virtue unrewarded, —in general, and looking at right results attained on a big scale, the plan is perfect. It cannot be improved. The test of the rule is not the exception. The cases of neglect of merit are exceedingly rare. In this Base Hospital promotions have been at a slow rate compared with happenings of this kind in France. That is natural. It is so in every army. Your first charge is untrue.

Your second charge, that the officers run the game to suit themselves, is true of only one army in the world. That army has almost ceased to exist. Your charge is true of what used to be the German Army. In every other army the officer is held to the strictest account. From first to last, in little things and in great things, his life is Obedience to Orders. You have more liberty of action, as a private, than your captain. For this reason. You are given a very few orders, of a simple nature, and if you break them you are punished. But the officer is given a great many orders covering a wide range of conduct, and many of these orders are not expressed in words. The accountability of the officer is far greater than the accountability of the private. The implication of your second charge is that officers have a better time than privates. That is what you really meant. Granted. They do. But your thought is that the Army is an easy chair for officers. You have much to learn before you get within speaking distance of your facts. Your second charge is untrue.—EDITOR.



(By Permission of A. M. Davis Company, Boston, Mass.)

#### CAUTION

Many of your friends may have written you and asked you to bring home a German Prisoner for a souvenir. Do not do so! It would make a very undesirable pet. In the first place it would have to be house-broken, which is almost impossible to achieve with this breed of animal. In the second place it would probably pine for its native Beer-garden and eventually have to be drowned or shot.

\* \* \*

#### ON REACHING HOME

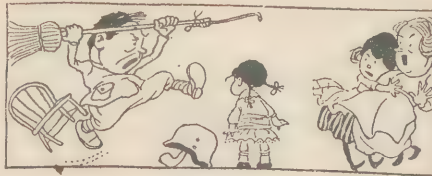
Call her on the phone as soon as you reach town and see if she recognizes your voice. If she doesn't you may learn something.

\* \* \*

It is highly desirable to get home in the daytime. If you should approach the house at night the dog might think you were an alien enemy. Also the family may have moved.

\* \* \*

Having assured yourself that it is the right house advance boldly. It is not necessary to crawl up the walk on your stomach. All the barbed wire is in France.



At the proper time show the folks that German helmet that you bought on the ship coming over. Make the story about how you captured it as exciting as possible.

\* \* \*

If sister says that she thought a barrage was something the Parisian beauties wore in the hair, be patient with her.

\* \* \*

Explain to mother that she is mistaken about the tanks. Assure her that there are some very respectable fellows in that branch of the service.



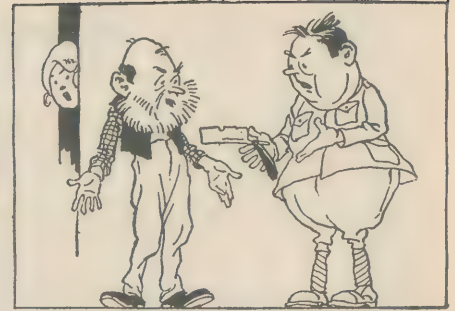
Try not to scratch yourself in company. Some of those present may have a good imagination.

\* \* \*

When you go upstairs things may seem a trifle unfamiliar, but you will soon become accustomed to your surroundings. That large white object in the little room is a bathtub. Mother will be glad to show you how it works.

\* \* \*

That piece of white cloth rolled up in a ring is not a bandage. It is your napkin.



Do not accuse father of using your razor while you were away. Sister is probably wearing tight shoes.

\* \* \*

The family do not stand in line for chow, sometimes called breakfast. There is a chair for everyone, including yourself. Do not be afraid to sit in it. It is quite strong.



(What not to do in case you hadn't thought about it)

As down the village street you wend  
To call upon your lady friend,  
Be sure to banish from your mind  
The girls in France you've left behind:  
Of course you're feeling full of pep—  
But *that's* the time to watch your step,  
(So just remember, if you can,  
Your sweetheart's name is *not*  
Suzanne.)

The same old house, the same old hall,  
The same old hat-rack on the wall,  
The same old hook to hang your lid,  
The same old greeting—"Oh, you kid!"  
Then, if the light is burning low,  
Respectfully salute her—so!

(But if you'll take a tip from me,  
You *won't* address her as Marie.)

The same old-fashioned living-room,  
The same judicious depth of gloom,  
The same old couch you used to share,  
The same high-powered Morris-chair:  
Then let your arm around her stray  
And love her in the same old way!  
(But as you tell her how you feel,  
Just bear in mind she's *not* Camille.)

Assure her all the girls in France  
With her would never stand a chance,  
And tell her since you've been away  
You've thought about her, night and day—  
But just remember, first and last,  
You *mustn't* get to talking fast,  
(For if you do, you *may* forget  
And call your darling, Antoinette!)

Inform her that you didn't care  
To meet the ladies "Over There—"  
And that you had no time to flirt—  
(They kept you busy shoveling dirt—)  
Oh, even though it makes you sick,  
Just lay it on and spread it thick.  
(But all the time, it's just as well  
If you *don't* call her Gabrielle.)

And when the time draws near for bed,—  
And dad is grumbling overhead,—  
And when you leave her at the door  
And try to sneak a couple more—  
Then, while your head is in a whirl,  
Just tell her she's the only girl!  
(But, if you want to call again,  
Don't say, "Good evening, Adrienne.")



# A 4-Minute Lesson In Personal Efficiency

To Help You Discover the Biggest Ambition of Your Life and How to Achieve It Quickly

By Edward Earle Purinton

The Famous Efficiency Expert

**R**ECENTLY I talked with the highest salaried man in the world. I asked him how he had succeeded. He quietly answered "I have not succeeded! No real man ever succeeds. There is always a larger goal ahead."

This multi-millionaire has outrun every rival on earth. But he has not reached the goal of his own satisfaction—any more than YOU have. But he is efficient. He began by wanting something so hard the whole world couldn't stop him.

## What Do YOU Want?

What would you like to be more than anything else. Look back ten years. How would you like to live that period all over again? If you could have known then what you know today, how much time, health, money, faith, energy, you could have saved!

I have believed for many years that the right kind of a course in practical, every-day, human efficiency, would supply an effective and much needed, short-cut to highest achievement and would save many grinding, discouraging and expensive years of haphazard experience.

It is much better to learn and profit by the mistakes and false moves of others than to waste valuable days and years waiting for experience. Don't rely on your own bitter experiences in the hope of doing better "next time." With the proper knowledge you will save mistakes.

It has been my privilege to act as teacher and counsellor for thousands of ambitious men and women—from the million dollar corporation head to the most humble beginner in the ranks.

And I have concluded that the average man engaged in a large enterprise who has not yet applied efficiency methods, to himself and his associates has been losing from \$1,000 to \$100,000 a year—while the individual, professional or industrial worker has been losing from \$100 to \$5,000 a year.

For twenty years I have been studying at close range, the exact reasons for these people's failure to get ahead. And into my new Practical Course in Personal Efficiency I have put in compact form the results of this study of individuals and business concerns.

## The Seven Manuals

Give you the Essence of Efficient Living and Business Achievement. They teach you in a few pleasant evenings of study

- How to Measure Your Efficiency.
- How to Get Ahead.
- How to Keep Well.
- How to Improve Your Finances.
- How to Organize Your Work.
- How to Be Efficient at Home.
- How to Plan Your Life.

By showing you in my manuals what other men and women—just like yourself—have learned and done and been, I believe sincerely that I can save you

about ten years of costly experimenting and can show you how to save your strength and energy and special abilities for clean-cut, economical and success-bringing work.

Efficiency is nothing less than the difference between wealth and poverty, fame and obscurity, power and weakness, health and disease, growth and death, hope and despair. The step from one of these extremes to the other is a short and easy one—if you KNOW HOW.

Take one of my pupils whom I shall call Mr. X, because if I ever met an "unknown quantity" he was one when he first came to me.

He has increased by about 500 per cent his daily output of work, his optimism and will power, his health reserve and his financial resources.

How did he do it?

First, he analyzed himself. Have you ever done this—thoroughly? If not, try it.

I can tell you I never saw such a change in a man.

For the first time he knew what he

wanted to do, what he wanted to be, what he wanted to have in life.

Then he went boldly at the attainment of his ambition.

He studied his possibilities—physical, mental and spiritual. He learned that his ambitions lay within reach of his natural gifts.

Finding that he was out of gear in certain ways—he set out to repair his faulty machinery. He made the most of his job. He learned to save two hours a day. He talked with men higher up.

He studied and tried every conceivable way of improving his work. He was always planning his line of advance. Every opening higher up found him prepared to fill it ably.

He changed his living habits and increased his daily output of energy about 200 per cent.

He stopped being a pessimist and grumbler and became the most cheerful man in the whole organization. Having grown friendly-minded, he attracted a host of new friends. He prospered. He advanced. He became a leader. He developed courage.

But remember this: Mr. X was not an exceptional man by any means. He was just average to begin with. When I first knew him he was making \$15 a week. Today he is probably without a rival in his chosen field—and his name is known throughout the business world. You can do the same or better.

EDWARD EARLE PURINTON.

\* \* \*

## ONLY FIVE DOLLARS Examine It Free

The most amazing thing about Mr. Purinton's Practical Course in Personal Efficiency in seven manuals is the low price at which it is now possible to secure it. So confident is the Independent Corporation that the tremendous value of the course will be apparent to you as soon as you have examined it that they will send the entire seven manuals for the asking with no obligation on your part. Without paying a cent you may see for yourself how twenty-one years of study on the part of the author has been concentrated into the shortest possible expression of the most necessary principles of efficiency.

Then when you decide to keep the Course send only \$5 in full payment. For this small sum you become owner of a work that has been worth thousands of dollars to others and may well prove to be the means of increasing your health and your pleasures and adding to your income every year of your life. Mail the coupon now before this low offer is withdrawn.

## FREE EXAMINATION COUPON

## Independent Corporation

(Publishers of The Independent Weekly)

119 W. 40th St., New York

You may send me postpaid the complete Purinton Practical Course in Personal Efficiency in seven manuals for free examination. Within five days I will either remail the course to you or remit \$5 in full payment.

Name .....

Street .....

City .....

State .....

## MR. PURINTON IS A WORLD-FAMOUS AUTHORITY

on Personal Efficiency. After spending twenty-one years learning how to increase human health, energy, productivity and happiness, he has put the boiled-down essence of his findings into his new Practical Course in Personal Efficiency the result of his rich experience.

He has been teacher, editor, lecturer, hygienist, psychologist, social service leader, efficiency engineer, and counsellor for men and women in every walk of life.

His best known previous work, "The Triumph of the Man Who Acts," has been read throughout the world. His works have gained more than a million readers. His help has been sought in every state in the union and in twenty foreign countries.

This great audience includes bankers, business and professional men, educators, manufacturers, railroad executives and heads of million dollar corporations. They all have something to learn from Mr. Purinton.

A thousand important business houses and institutions have already ordered Mr. Purinton's works for their friends, patrons, clients or employees.

## A FEW OF THE MILLION AND WHAT THEY SAY:

MELVIL DEWEY, President of The National Efficiency Society, says:

"I have never yet picked up this work for five minutes without getting direct practical value from some new thought or some unusual or more telling presentation of an old one. These stimulating pages bristle with epigrams and sparkle with the texts of a thousand sermons. No man can read his work without getting ideas and better suggestions that will enable him to improve the greatest and most complex and most important of all machines he will ever use—Himself."

IRA J. STEINER, Educational Director, Camp Cody, says:

"Mr. Purinton has rendered a great service to the present cause by bringing out this wonderful Course in Personal Efficiency, which is the first of this particular type of Courses in practical, applied efficiency, and nothing I feel is more needed in this present conflict at the front, in the camp, in the shop, in the office, on the farm, and in the school than the matter of being personally efficient."

TRUMAN A. DE WEESE, of The Shredded Wheat Company, says:

"If I were rich I would distribute about a million copies of Mr. Purinton's Efficiency Work among the million Americans who I think need the sound wisdom and advice it contains."

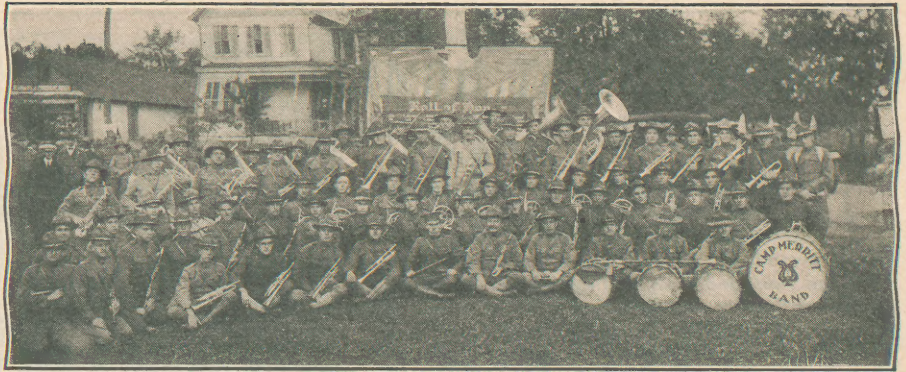
JOHN H. PATTERSON, President of the National Cash Register Company, says:

"I began to mark passages in your writings which I wished especially to remember. I found after I had completed my reading that I had practically marked up the entire work."





*A Base Hospital String Trio. Left to right: Pts. 1/c Robert Vachon, Edward Westland, Thomas Prince. These players accompanied the "Good Luck Sam" Company in Their Recent New York Engagement*



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## Nurses' Department

(Continued from Page 18)

Miss Kenny, Chief Nurse at Embarkation Hospital No. 1, Hoboken, and Miss Cullittin, also of Hoboken; Captain and Mrs. Palmer; Lieut. Tatum; Lieut. and Mrs. McGee; Lieut. and Mrs. Bush; Lieut. and Mrs. Rackaman, and Miss Mantell; Lieut. and Mrs. Hoge and children; Capt Chambers, Capt. Hayes, Lieut. Burdge and Lieut. Chase. Owing to the illness of Mrs. Sloat, Major and Mrs. Sloat were unable to attend either the dinner or dance.

\* \* \*

Miss Rose Stull has been transferred from this Base Hospital to General Hospital No. 11, Cape May, N. J.

\* \* \*

Miss Edna Hammersmith has been granted a fourteen-day furlough.

\* \* \*

Miss Helen Wilson and Miss Amy McDonald have received their Honorable Discharge from the Army Nurse Corps, returning to their homes.

\* \* \*

We were delighted to hear that the portrait to be used on the cover of the first issue of THE MESS-KIT, the monthly magazine of the Base Hospital, would be that of Miss Lillian S. Ryan, Chief Nurse of the Base Hospital. The choice seemed to us most appropriate.

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